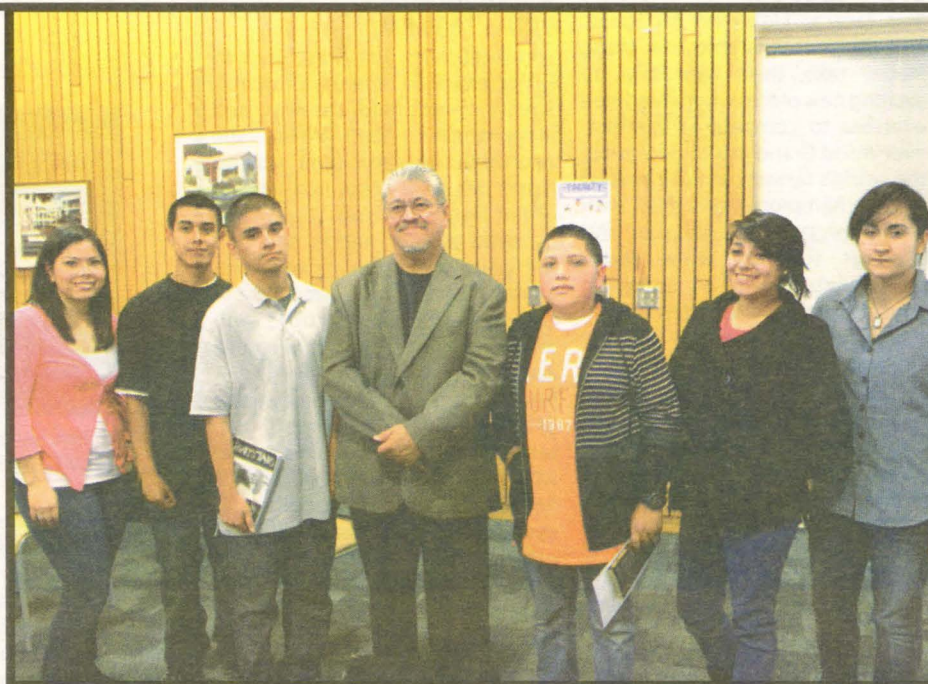


the Otter Realm

California State University, Monterey Bay's Official Student-Run Newspaper

YOU ARE THE OTHER ME



STUDENTS OF SALINAS ALISAL HIGH SCHOOL SURROUND LUIS J. RODRIGUEZ BEFORE THE TOWN HALL MEETING AT HARTNELL COLLEGE ON SEPT. 21

PHOTO PROVIDED BY MIGUEL LOPEZ

LUIS J. RODRIGUEZ: ART AND IMAGINATION TO SAVE THE YOUTH

Desiree Sheppard, Staff Reporter
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Luis J. Rodriguez, the well known writer, activist and poet, author of "Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in LA" moved to tears and inspired a large crowd of teachers, students, mayors (of two cities), recovering drug addicts, former convicted felons, Rotary Club members, and anyone interested in youth, peace and disruption of violence.

In his visit to Salinas on Sep 21, Rodriguez talked in two events, a town hall meeting at Hartnell College, and a lecture sponsored by the National Steinbeck Center at Sherwood Hall. He referred to his personal hardships growing up in the ganglands of LA, and how education and his passion for words saved him. He also explained how

a community-centered approach that supports kids and youth nurturing their imagination, expression and sense of belonging, can make a profound difference in breaking down the cycle of violence.

The evening show at Sherwood Hall started off with a scene from "Always Running" performed as a captivating musical skit by Poetic Works, a theater group of formerly incarcerated artists and actors. And soon after, a short video introduced the Tia Chucha project, designed by Rodriguez and his wife in the San Fernando Valley, demonstrating that "art transforms communities."

The project is an example of a site where any person of the com-

munity, without being an artist, can come to share, create and express, because "poor people are abundant in imagination."

Rodriguez talks about moments in which he just wanted to die. "Gangs may not be suicide, but it's a suicide type of life," Rodriguez said.

He also noted, "Five feelings of emptiness" he observes in today's kids when being let down by adults, communities and institutions. First, feeling powerless, "nothing is there for me." Second is helplessness, third is hopelessness, fourth is rootless, and lastly, feeling meaningless, or having no reason to live.

"Our task," Rodriguez said, "is to help fill these empty spaces with

imagination." Later he explains "The solutions are in our hands because the problems of violence and poverty are man-made problems, so we are able to fix them."

He says that, yes it is known by everyone that there is no money for the arts, but how much does it really cost to talk to someone or just even listen?

Rodriguez urges adults to listen to kids. Find opportunities and imaginative ways to help kids and the community that feels empty and hopeless.

He says we all need to care because we are all connected, as it is beautifully reminded by the greeting expression in the Mayan language "En-lak-ech" which means "you are the other me."

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WHAT YOU OTTER BE DOING

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Designed By: Kameron Sawyer

September 29 - October 13

SAT 10/1

STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**STUDENT CENTER - WEST LOUNGE
8 A.M. - 5 P.M.**

The annual Student Leadership Conference draws in 200 students for a full day of engaging workshops and a dynamic keynote speaker. The theme this year is modeled after the Heroic Imagination Project by Phil Zimbardo and will encourage and empower students to become everyday heroes.

MON 10/3

MAJOR FAIR

**STUDENT CENTER - WEST LOUNGE
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

Major Fair 2011. Introduces students to the majors as well as Study Abroad, University Research Opportunity Center, Service Learning, and Career Development.

TUE 10/4

PREPARING FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL

**STUDENT CENTER
4 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.**

What should you include in a statement of purpose? How can you get the best letters of recommendation? What is it all about? Graduate and Professional School admissions can be trickier and take more time than your undergraduate admissions did. Find out what you can do to start preparing now to avoid a headache later.

TUE 10/4

MOVIE NIGHT - CARS 2

**WORLD THEATER
8 P.M. - 10:30 P.M.**

Star racecar Lightning McQueen, and the incomparable tow truck, Mater, take their friendship to exciting new places when they head overseas to compete in the first-ever World Grand Prix to determine the world's fastest car. But the road to the championship is filled with plenty of potholes, detours and hilarious surprises when Mater gets caught up in an intriguing adventure of his own: international espionage. Torn between assisting Lightning McQueen in the high-profile race and towing the line in a top-secret spy mission, Mater's action-packed journey leads him on an explosive chase through the streets of Japan and Europe, trailed by his friends and watched by the whole world. * DOORS OPEN @ 7:30P.M. * Concessions available * Cash Only Please *

WED 10/5

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

**MAIN QUAD
11 A.M. - 1 P.M.**

Health & Wellness Services, the Personal Growth & Counseling Center, and the POWER Peer Education Program are offering free, confidential screenings for depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder. At the event, you can fill-out a questionnaire and talk with a counselor about your personal situation. Even if you don't have a mood or anxiety disorder, you are invited to come out and learn about Health & Wellness Services and the POWER Peer Education Program. Supplies will also be on-hand to make your own aromatherapy neck pillow!

For more information, please contact the Personal Growth & Counseling Center at (831) 582-3969.

TUE 10/11

AS MOVIE NIGHT - BAD TEACHER

**WORLD THEATER
8 P.M. - 10:30 P.M.**

Some teachers just don't give an F. For example, there's Elizabeth. She's foul-mouthed, ruthless, and inappropriate. She drinks, she gets high, and she can't wait to marry her meal ticket and get out of her bogus day job. When she's dumped by her fiancé, she sets her plan in motion to win over a rich, handsome substitute - competing for his affections with an overly energetic colleague, Amy. When Elizabeth also finds herself fighting off the advances of a sarcastic, irreverent gym teacher, the consequences of her wild and outrageous schemes give her students, her coworkers, and even herself an education like no other. *DOORS OPEN @ 7:30P.M. * Concessions Available * Cash Only Please *

TUE 10/13

FARMERS MARKET

**MAIN QUAD
11 A.M. - 4 P.M.**

Come out and join members of the AS Environmental Affairs Committee, as they sponsor the Fall Farm Stand on the main quad of CSUMB.

**GOT AN EVENT?
LET US KNOW!**

OTTER_REALM@CSUMB

FOR MORE EVENTS, VISIT THE CSUMB MASTER CALENDAR ONLINE @ WWW.CALENDAR.CSUMB.EDU

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Culture On my Mind



Crystal Marie Lopez, Editor-in-Chief
CRLOPEZ@CSUMB.EDU

Embracing the Many Cultures at CSUMB

Anything worth doing is not easily done. I am reminded of this on a daily basis as I live my life and complete my duties fully believing everything happens for a reason.

With every issue of The Otter Realm I make a conscious choice to try and produce, in collaboration with The Otter Realm staff, a paper which mirrors the diversity of the California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) campus. I gladly welcome questions, comments, story suggestions, and requests.

As this issue took form, we noticed it dealt primarily with culture. First we report on the recent visit of famed author Luis Rodriguez. I was personally introduced to the work of Mr. Rodriguez as a seventh grader. I entered a library and by chance found a book so well written and honest, I was unable to put it down. The book, *Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in L.A.*, is one that left me with an undying understanding of the strength and drive one can find within their self in the most difficult of situations.

CSUMB's acceptance of diversity is reflected in Dr. Dianne Harrison's recent trip to the Middle East. President Harrison, as she is known to the CSUMB community, shared with us her experiences in a lecture to students, staff, and the community.

We also introduce you and graciously welcome to the CSUMB

community Leslie Grinner, who will enter our community as the Coordinator for our new Cross Cultural Center. Grinner will join us later in the month of October and everyone is encouraged to participate in the plethora of positivity the presence of the Cross Cultural Center will undoubtedly have on the CSUMB campus.

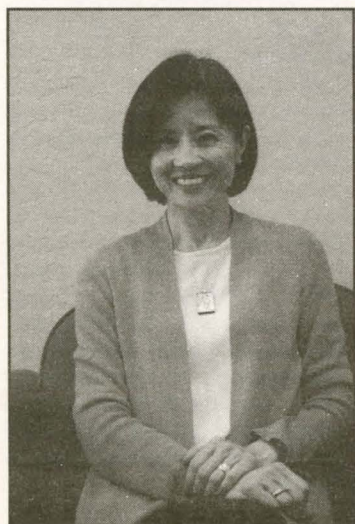
Additionally, we acknowledge the celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month. Celebrated from September 15 to October 15, these days pay tribute to generations of Hispanic Americans and the many ways they have positively influenced our society. This is one of the many cultures this Otter proudly considers herself a part of.

I encourage you to also read the other articles so carefully crafted by our reporters. It is my promise to you, the CSUMB community, to actively strive to continue leading The Otter Realm into taking steps forward. This is not an easy task but one I know is worth it with every interaction we have with you our reader.

We understand that although we may try our best to represent all cultures equally, there will be some who just slip under our radar. It is unintentional, and it is for this reason that we encourage you to get involved with us because you have a voice and you Otter have it heard.

Hiramoto New VP

**New VP Optimistic About
Job Duties**



DR. HIROMOTO
IS EXCITED
TO PROMOTE
CSUMB

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
RAQUELLE MILLER

Nicolás Pérez, Staff Reporter
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California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) is rapidly growing in capacity in almost every aspect. Despite the sluggish economy, the university continues its efforts to expand and flourish into one of the more prominent schools in the CSU system.

CSUMB's Division of University Advancement plays a vital role in the school's success.

As of Oct. 3, The University Advancement office will continue its efforts, guided by its new Vice President, Dr. Patti Hiramoto.

"I am extremely excited about promoting CSUMB and working with the Advancement staff as well as the broader campus and external communities," she said.

Dr. Hiramoto will be responsible for overseeing the areas of development, communications, and external and governmental relations relevant to the university.

She acknowledges the economic conditions have made it difficult for higher education.

"Now more than ever, University Advancement is looking for resources to support campus initiatives."

However, Hiramoto is determined to build strong relations while, at the same time, promoting CSUMB's great work.

"I am deeply committed to the work that University Advancement does because we essentially get to promote the amazing work that our students, faculty and staff are doing. How wonderful is that?"

Indeed, Dr. Patti has earned her stripes. She worked at CSUMB in Equal Employment Opportunity, Academic Personnel, and CSUMB President's chief-of-staff, and now as Vice President.

"I've worked at different universities in different divisions so I feel this has helped me gain a wider perspective."

In addition, Dr. Hiramoto has worked in schools such as University of California, Santa Cruz, San Francisco State, Stanford, and the University of Southern California, as well as obtaining her doctorate at UC Berkeley.

President

Dianne Harrison expresses her optimism in Dr. Hiramoto's new role as Vice President. "I am confident Dr. Hiramoto and the outstanding team in University Advancement will continue to tell our story of success, while building partnerships that benefit our students and the entire region," she said in a statement.

"Our Vision here at University Advancement is to propel CSUMB towards realization of its Vision by creating awareness, establishing connections, and securing support. We are a campus on the move, and each of us is playing a part in that."

President Harrison Goes Global



PHOTO PROVIDED BY
ROBERT HUFFSTUTTER

PRESIDENT HARRISON SPENT TIME IN THE MIDDLE EAST
TO STUDY THEIR CULTURE

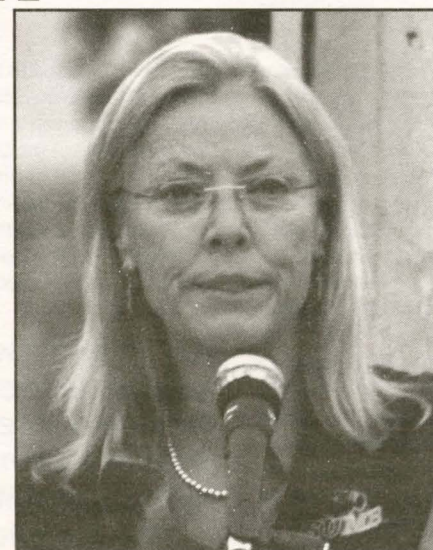


PHOTO PROVIDED BY
CRYSTAL MARIE LOPEZ

CSUMB President Talks of Middle East Venture

Jessica Dedmon, Staff Reporter
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President Harrison traveled to the Middle East to explore international connections, which could translate into programs and projects that can help California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) learn more about cultures and understanding on a global scale.

On Sept. 15, President Dianne Harrison spoke to about 40 people regarding her two-week trip through Jordan and Oman. President Harrison spoke about the Fullbright-Hays Seminar she attended with four other university presidents in Jordan and Oman. Even though President Harrison was able to visit historical locations, this trip was not about a vacation.

"They worked us to death," she said.

Jordan and Oman are two different countries separated by Saudi Arabia in the Middle East. President Harrison traveled to these countries at the end of March for a seminar that was the first of its kind. This was the first seminar that was specifically designed for presidents of universities. It was created by a non-profit organization and was inspired from President Obama's speech in Kuwait.

Once they arrived, they visited numerous schools, including 11 institutes, which are designed for higher learning. They had "quite the schedule," said President Harrison.

While they were in these countries, they discovered many of the hopes and dreams of numerous faculty and officials want to accomplish.

**I do think that it is
a part of the world
that we need to know
more about
- President Harrison**

Many of their wants and needs of the universities are strikingly similar to that of California and America. They are re-

searching for alternative energy, clean water, and ways to help the environment, to name a few. Some of the Universities also share a similar past to that of CSUMB: they have started from scratch.

The main thing they want, though, is for some of their students to come learn in America's Universities. Degrees from America are of high value in the Middle East, and these Universities want their students to receive that honor.

Currently, CSUMB does not have many opportunities for faculty or students to participate in exchange programs in the Middle East.

"One goal is to interest more of our students abroad in one of these

countries," President Harrison said. Because CSUMB does not currently offer Arabic as a language, it would be very difficult to send students over to the Middle East. "We hope to make available opportunities for our students to engage in these areas," added President Harrison.

One of the goals of the Fullbright-Hays program is to have citizens not hate each other and gain a little more understanding. "I do think that it is a part of the world that we need to know more about," said President Harrison during her lecture. Instead of just CSUMB students traveling overseas, students from Jordan and Oman would travel to study on campus as well.

"Similarly, I would hope that students from these countries who come to [CSUMB] to study will develop a better understanding of the cultures and traditions in the United States," said President Harrison.

President Harrison's trip to Jordan and Oman is just the beginning step to starting the studying abroad process. Now decisions must be made and chances must be taken. Overall, the audience at President Harrison's lecture seemed satisfied and hopeful for a helpful addition to CSUMB.

Culture Shock

Cross Cultural Center Will Unite and Conquer

Evander Blakely, Staff Reporter
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Students on the California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) campus have long searched for a place where they can celebrate who they are and where they come from, a place where they can be themselves and not carry the fear of being judged. In late October such a place will arrive to CSUMB. The new Cross Cultural Center which will be located in the Student Center, will serve as home to many CSUMB students looking to represent the cultural diversity of the school.

The idea for the center gained interest after a few unfortunate events at other university campuses in the spring and fall of 2010. An incident

at CSUMB in the spring of the same year involving a chalking epithet spurred a call for increased education, inclusiveness, and commitment to diversity on campus.

In order to make the dream center a reality Dr. Christine Erickson assembled a committee made up of students, staff, and faculty

[It] is a place where one can celebrate their self, where they have been, and where they are going while honoring those who are both similar and different

members. The committee examined the need for a center, similar situations on other campuses, the

center's functions, possible locations, required staff, and student ideas. Some large student groups on campus were also allowed input on what they felt the center needed. The committee gathered this input and developed a proposal to Dr. Ronnie Higgs for the establishment of a Cross Cultural Center at CSUMB.

"The center's main purpose is to provide opportunities for all students to develop cross cultural competence and to further our university where students from all backgrounds feel safe, valued, included, understood, celebrated, and central to the vision of our University," said Timothy Bills, Director, Student Activities and Leadership Development. In other words, students have a lot to look forward to. First year student Johnny Hall said he loves the idea of a place where

students can go and be themselves, adding that the biggest pet peeve of all is when someone tries to hide who they are. With this center being a focal point on campus students do not have to hide any longer.

The Cultural Center will be a hall for events, and resources for learning outside of the classroom. It will provide staffing, and events to educate the campus on important dialogues around race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and other identity areas.

A Coordinator, Peer Mentor Advisor, and a staff of student peer mentors will create a positive environment where students from all backgrounds can create community and build a family type bond. The Staff plans for programs, retreats, trainings, performances, and arts to grow from the center. They

hope that resources from the campus and community will gain positivity and helpful information from this Center of hope.

When asked why students should consider going to the Cross Cultural Center, Bills explained the center is a place where one can celebrate their self, where they have been, and where they are going while honoring those who are similar and different. Hopefully, it is a place where a student can move forward by giving back. The Cultural Center has made an effort to support students and their needs, now it is time for students to accept the gift and support the great center that has been given to CSUMB.

From the Big Apple to the Otter's Bay

Ayanna Keeling, Staff Reporter
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Leslie Grinner to Run New Cross Cultural Center

The new Cross Cultural Center coordinator here at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) was chosen above all others. There was definitely a great poll of candidates, but the finalist has an excellent combination of skills in serving priorities for the students. Her name is Leslie Grinner, and she is truly an educator.

Grinner received her undergraduate degree in gender studies from the University of Southern California and worked on her dissertation for her doctorate from Syracuse University in New York.

"I am coming to CSUMB after eight years of living in New York City; I'm looking forward to getting back to my Native Californian roots," Grinner said.

She plans to provide a focus on learning and appreciation around various cultures among our culturally conscious university.

The essential duties and responsibilities of the Cross Cultural Coordinator includes, but are not limited to, providing programs and services that support the

academic and social success of all CSUMB students.

Various programs will focus around intercultural programming and student organizational support. Grinner enforces gender equality, respect among all peers, and insertion of social differences. These qualities can help expand the university's cultural awareness, and the student body will be able to enjoy and explore ancient world cultures.

The trusting relationship between the students and the coordinator is coupled with positive reinforcement, which helps both parties overcome difficult situations. Initiatives are built to facilitate proactive and reactive programs within a culturally pluralistic campus community.

Tim Bills, Director of Student Activities states, "she is a magnet for students to learn and celebrate different cultures."

The coordinator creates a safe and affirming area that supports the students' needs as well as allowing them to pursue various goals, in

order to reach a certain academic potential. Retreats and team building exercises are preferred, in conjunction with the growing needs of the university.

Since the cross cultural coordinator routinely collaborates with other Student Life departments, advises the Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) and Greek Letter Organizations, Leslie Grinner was a strong candidate. She not only has knowledge working with various student organizations, but she also has experience with Greek Life.

The Cross Cultural Center is an area for students, faculty, and the outside community to feel comfortable exploring new cultural opportunities. Grinner has a mixture of educational and practical experience. She carries skills with multiple stakeholders, including students, faculty, and commu-

nity members. She demonstrates knowledge within different areas providing learning opportunities, and she is a constant learner and facilitator of social justice.

She is a magnet for students to learn and celebrate different cultures-Tim Bills

The university, as well as the campus community, would like to welcome Leslie Grinner to the Monterey Peninsula.

She is highly open to new ideas and plans to provide guidance and leadership to all. The grand opening of the new Cross Cultural Center is set for October, and Leslie Grinner's official start date is Oct. 10.

Grinner, as well as various peer mentors, is also recommended to help the center develop into a strong replica of the CSUMB Vision Statement. CSUMB is extremely delighted to have Leslie Grinner become an exciting new addition to the university.



LESLIE GRINNER

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
LESLIE GRINNER

You Are the Other Me

Luis J. Rodriguez: art and imagination to save the youth

CONTINUED FROM COVER

Rodriguez talks about his new upcoming book due out in October, *It Calls You Back: A Writer's Odyssey through Love, Addictions, Recovery and Healing*. This book follows his life as a father and how it changed him as a man. Rodriguez promised to be a good father to his son giving up drugs yet failed him by becoming an alcoholic. Later on he divorced his wife and abandoned his son Ramiro. At the age of 13 his son was reliving his dad's gangster ways, by being shot at, shooting two police officers, and being sentenced to face 40 years to life in prison. To know how his son is no longer in that situation, he says, "read the book!"

But he gives a hint: Ramiro is out and he becomes a new man.

Change is possible.

In the Q&A session at Sherwood Hall a teacher who works in the district of Salinas emotionally expressed her commitment for kids but also her anger with the school systems and how the kids are being short handed by not having the best services provided to them.

Then a former 20-year-old recovering drug addict thanked the author and shared how her life has changed for the better. "One just needs an opportunity" she said, "you just have to be ready and willing."

Youngsters in the audience lined up to have their books signed by

Rodriguez. High school student Michael Mares said, "I really enjoyed it and my favorite part was when he pointed out the five feelings of emptiness and what we need to do to change that."

It's all about preparation, preparing to run the world

Priscilla Manzo, said, "I liked how Luis sees creativity as something important."

Natasha Limosnero said she could really relate

to what Luis was saying and how we can make a change.

Mioton Cardamo felt that it was very inspirational and likes how "Luis stressed the needs in wanting to help the children." All of them belong to the Boys and Girls Club

and Host and Youth Council of Salinas.

Colleen Bailey, executive Director of the National Steinbeck Center, explained why they chose Rodriguez as the opener for their fall events. The center is reinventing itself and becoming relevant to the community following its mission statement inspired by John Steinbeck himself, "building community and celebrating creativity." By having Luis J. Rodriguez come they knew he exemplified exactly that.

Lastly, Rodriguez, the man himself, answered the question: what is his advice to college students? "It's all about preparation. Preparing to run the world."

Youth voices: How to make Salinas a better place?

In preparation for the town hall meeting that hosted the author Luis J. Rodriguez, a group of Alisal High school students brainstormed questions and offered ideas about how to improve their the city and how to stay "out of trouble."

They wrote a wish list to the city officials. The list includes "more parks in East Salinas," "a garden," "a pool," and "arts programs".

The kids asked the police department to "stop arresting graffiti artists!"

They challenge the libraries to be more relevant to their lives, and to the school's superintendent the message was: "More elective courses," "art courses," "culinary classes," "ways to find out about our passions and talents", and of course: "good yummy, healthy food!" in the cafeteria.

Students participating: David Martínez, Manny Ramírez, Vicente García, Berenize Tapia and Mariana Salazar.

Town Hall Meeting Voices

Miguel López, CSUMB Professor holds his hopes in education: "Education matters! We need to value our teachers. Think of how to support them, how to think of them as leaders. Instead of expecting them to be 'supermans' just ask them 'how can I help you,' and keep the expectations high!"

Marc Cabrera, a Salinas native and writer of The Monterey Herald remembers the day he refused violence "No I'm not tough," replied Cabrera to the invitation to join a gang. His advice: "Not to give-in to the intimidation, nobody needs to prove 'I'm tough,' and don't feel bad about being vulnerable."

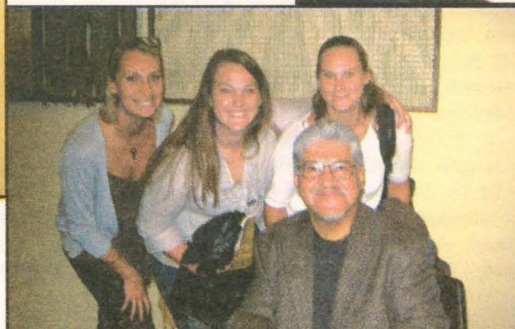
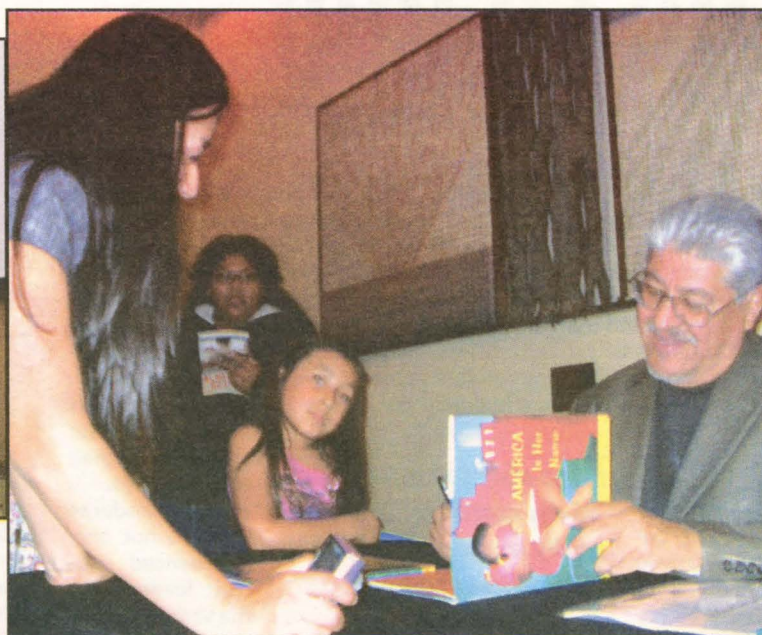
"I don't want to arrest more people. I want to see people taking ownership," said Sheldon Bryan, representing the Salinas Police Department.

"We have resources, but this is what we need: knowing how to help" Ricky Cabrera, President of Salinas, Rotary Club.

Jackie Cruz: Representing Hartwell College, describes a turning point in her life, after her experience in Juvenile Hall. "Life changes for a youth in trouble when an adult saw her as an asset not as a liability. My message to the youth: There are people who believe in you."



LUIS RODRIGUEZ SIGNING BOOKS AND SPEAKING



Learning the Opposite of Uniformity

Intersecting Culture and Diversity at CSUMB



PHOTO PROVIDED BY CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY MONTEREY BAY COMMUNICATIONS

DR. MARIA VILLASEÑOR WITH CSUMB STUDENTS

Nicole Evans, Staff Reporter
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California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) has a wide range of demographics on campus. The student population consists of 30.9 percent Hispanic American, 4.1 percent Asian American, 54.2 percent White American, 4.4 percent African American, 1 percent

Native American and 15.8 percent undeclared. Students at CSUMB are incredibly lucky to attend college in such a place that houses so much diversity culturally, as well as racially.

Hand in hand with the demographics are the many cultural courses offered on campus. In a world and time where

many cultures are misunderstood, it is of utter importance a concerted effort be made to educate students and non-students in regards to cultures other than their own. Stepping out into the world today with a culturally literate background, an open mind, and loads of respect helps pave the way for a successful and influential member of society. The classes at CSUMB aim for the highest point of this goal.

As most students know, they have an obligation upon intention to graduate to fulfill a group of what the University calls Major Learning Outcomes, or MLOs. MLO 5 is called Critical Cultural Analysis. It explicitly states it will provide the student with the "ability to investigate and explain relationships among cultural ideologies and socio-historical experiences, interests, identities, and actions of specific cultural groups." The possible fulfillments to meet this MLO

include, Race and Gender Justice, Chicano/a Life and Culture, Travel Narratives, Black Feminist Theories and Praxis, Race, Colonialism, Film, and many more.

CSUMB has a firm grasp on this idea of expanding cultural diversity and they not only make it an option, but a requirement for students attending college at CSUMB. Instilling this as a requirement is an enormous step in the right direction for preparing graduates for the diversified industries they will delve into post-graduation.

Dr. Maria Villaseñor, a professor of cultural studies at CSUMB, grew up the daughter of Mexican immigrants. She attended UC Berkeley and obtained her Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies. She specialized in comparative Chicano/a and Asian American literature.

"What I have learned and what I know about the subject matter of Chicano/a-Latino/a Studies is not something I learned exclusively

from books; instead, my academic knowledge is enhanced and supported by the intimate knowledge of my lived experience," she says. "I love my subject matter, and I think what students learn in these classes improves their day-to-day lives and the quality of their relationships with themselves and others. For me, teaching these courses is a way to make a little bit of a difference in the world."

She believes all students are empowered through the knowledge they gain of their particular culture as well as the ability to form more meaningful and significant cross-cultural relationships. Acquiring these skills, perceptions, and thought processes in pertinence to culture will prove to be an integral aspect in the lives of all CSUMB students and aid them in a successful future.

Follow the Leader

Or Become One

Eric Warnars, Staff Reporter
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California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) is, first and foremost, an institution of education. The goal for some however, is to get their diploma and get out. Nothing more. No setbacks. Yet at CSUMB one can find leadership opportunities at every corner. The campus is flooded with chances to get involved and find personal growth. Realistically, being a student leader takes more effort than not, but the payoff may be worth more to certain individuals.

To be a leader, it is not essential that one join a student organization or club of any kind, though it does help. Organizations such as Associated Students (AS), Otter Student Union (OSU), Orientation Leaders (OL)— even being a part of one of the numerous clubs at CSUMB— are all ways to transform oneself into someone with the ability to lead a group as well as some others can look up to.

Edward Sena, a Super Senior majoring in Business, is the Chief Programming Officer (CPO) for the Otter Student Union. He was previously part of CSUMB's Orientation Leaders team and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for OSU. "I was able to step outside of my comfort zone and really meet great people. It also helped me realize how important these years are in college, because who you meet and what you do now will define who you are and what you'll do in life," said Sena.

Joining one of these organizations may seem daunting at first glance. Worry not, for there are even more ways one can develop his or her leadership skills. On Saturday, October 1st, 2011 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, the annual Student Leadership Conference is taking

place. It is going to be held in the West Lounge of the Student Center. There will be a number of collaborative workshops along with a keynote speaker. The conference is to be influenced by the work of Psychology Professor Phillip Zimbardo's Heroic Imagination Project. Students will learn what it takes to be a leader and hero in their everyday lives.

I was able to step outside of my comfort zone and really meet great people.

— Edward Sena

"It introduces them to not only experienced student leaders, but the various opportunities that reside on campus," said Sena. "Leadership isn't just AS and OSU. Being an RA, Greek Life, or even athletics can really develop someone into a student leader."

There are qualities one should build on when trying to become a leader. One of the utmost is the ability to make difficult decisions. Leaders are, at times, forced to

make decisions that affect not only themselves, but others as well. On Friday, October 7, 2011 from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. in the Barnet Segal Auditorium (located in the Tanimura and Antle Family Memorial Library— Building 508), students will be interacting with each other to understand how different aspects of their pasts (i.e. personal experiences, relationships, and the role of leadership) all play a definitive part in their decision-making. Act fast! There are a finite amount of spaces available in the workshop and one

must be reserved. Contact Gary Rodriguez at (831) 582-4427 to register. The deadline is Thursday, October 6, 2011 at 5:00 PM.

Opportunities are out there and it is up to you to seize them. There is a possibility that the benefits of becoming a student leader will continue long after your time at CSUMB and you will keep seeing dividends long after you graduate. There is one question you may want to ask yourself in considering becoming a student leader – Why follow the leader when you can be one?



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ERIC WARNARS

"STUDENT LEADER EDWARD SENA HARD AT WORK LEADING CSUMB IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION"

Sea Otter Awareness Week!

Dogs of the Sea Celebrated September 25-October 1

Adri Nishio, Staff Reporter
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As seen by California State University, Monterey Bay's (CSUMB) logo, along with T-shirts, posters and store windows across the peninsula alike, the residents of Monterey Bay are already familiar with sea otters. But while we may have familiarized ourselves with their adorable faces and playful demeanors, many students are not truly educated on the spirited sea creatures or aware of the importance they play in our bay and other marine ecosystems.

Fortunately, each year the Defenders of Wildlife organize a week dedicated to sea otters in an effort to teach and raise awareness across the nation, as well as promote conservation programs and research. This year, Sea Otter Awareness Week will take place September 25-October

1 and will be celebrated in venues across seven states and in Canada and Portugal.

Throughout the week, these

venues will be hosting events that include lectures, guest speakers, and film showings. Several will be taking place along the Monterey Peninsula; the Long Marine Lab in Santa Cruz and Monterey Bay Aquarium are hosting lectures throughout the week, and the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History invites guests to visit their Southern Sea Otter exhibit. Sea Otter Awareness Week is also making its way to CSUMB with a special lecture.

One of the main topics at hand is the "no-otter-management zone," a 1986 law passed by Congress in response to the conflicts sea otters caused fisheries. This law established a "no-otter-management zone" from Santa Barbara County all the way to the Mexican border, and any sea otters found in this "zone" were to be removed and relocated. Experts agree that this program has not succeeded however, and are concerned over the steady decline in the sea otter population due to



THE SEA OTTER (ENHYDRA LUTRIS) IN ALL OF ITS FURRY SPLENDID GLORY

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
MICHAEL "MIKE" L. BAIRD

These venues will be hosting events that include lectures, guest speakers, and film showings

the law.

Thankfully, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service published and proposed a decision to end the program in August of this year, but they still need the public's support in order to guarantee the termination of the law. On October 6, a public hearing will be held in Santa Cruz at the

Long Marine Laboratory, and until October 24 people have the option of sending in comments or posting them online to support the end of the program.

The Southern Sea Otter Recovery & Marine Conservation Coordinator of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Lilian Carswell, discussed the his-

tory of this program, possible solutions, and more in her lecture, "No Line on the Horizon" at CSUMB on September 26th.

For more information regarding other events in the area, and for more information on sea otters, visit <http://www.defenders.org/seaotter/awareness>.

CSUMB 4th Amongst Liberal Arts Colleges

Sarah Carroll, Staff Reporter
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National Ranking for Accomplishments in Public Good; Ranks 94 Out of 249 Overall

In the recently published September 2011 edition of *The Washington Monthly College Guide* California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) was recognized for contributing to the public good, ranking fourth nationwide. While many college rankings are based on academics, *The Washington Monthly* rates different aspects of universities such as Research (producing cutting-edge scholarship and PhDs) and Service (encouraging students to give something back to their country).

CSUMB placed 94 overall out of 249 liberal arts schools. Additionally, the college was a clear front runner in the Research Category, ranking 3rd behind Wesleyan University (1st) and University of Hawaii (2nd). CSUMB has spent a total of \$5.78 million in research expenditures, much of which has been funneled

into the school's strong Environmental Science department. Many CSUMB students are able to contribute to such research through the "Science Methods Lab" university learning requirement (ULR).

Dr. Daniel Fernandez, chair of the Division of Science and Environmental Policy, whose main interest is sustainability, is also an active researcher. Currently, his research involves the measurement and collection of water from fog capture, "which, as you can imagine, can be significant on the central coast of California," said Fernandez. When asked if this ranking affected him personally Fernandez replied, "Yes, I am very happy that both CSUMB and the Division of Science and Environmental Policy were seen in such a positive light. Recognitions such as these provide evidence that the hard work we are all doing

is being seen and appreciated."

In addition to reaching out to the community in a scientific manor, CSUMB is also unique in the sense that community service is widely encouraged. In fact, each student must perform community service to satisfy lower and upper division Service Learning requirements. With those requirements in mind,

Human Services, Social Work, responded to this ranking, "I'm really proud to be a student at a university which focuses so much on helping the community. Coming from a major that incorporates so much community service, it's exciting to have been ranked fairly high on the list in such significant categories." According to the Service Learning

There has been a strong positive response from students and faculty regarding these rankings. Kristopher Hansen, senior, Japanese, said, "I am happy our school's strengths are being recognized and I think this rating will be great for CSUMB's reputation." The CSUMB community can agree the university deserves to be on this list seeing as it is a community-oriented university longing to share the beauty of higher education with every individual. "If you look at all that CSUMB is involved in, such as service learning, dedication to the tri-county area, lifelong learning, interdisciplinary, reflection, and social justice, just to name a few, I think it makes perfect sense for us to have achieved this recognition," said Fernandez.

Recognitions such as these provide evidence that the hard work we are all doing is being seen and appreciated
-Dr. Fernandez

it comes as no surprise that CSUMB was ranked 15 in the category of "Courses and Financial Aid Devoted to Service Learning". Chelsea Ferraro, senior, Collaborative Health and

Institute, students provided a total of 65,120 hours of community service, in 257 community agencies, during the 2010-2011 academic school year alone.

Pay It Forward Program Recognized in CSUMB Library

Adam Napoletano, Copy Editor
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Mike and Linda Dorn Honored with Atrium in the Tanimura and Antle Family Memorial Library

In 2008, Tim McCarthy helped develop and expand the Pay It Forward Program at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB). McCarthy, a retired lawyer, helps the Pay It Forward program by enabling it with mentors that help it stay successful. This program was developed to help students who are in dire need of financial aid for their education. As it states on the CSUMB website, the Pay It Forward program "instills the spirit of hope and generosity in the next generation by demonstrating that giving back can truly be the greatest gift of all, especially for the giver."

McCarthy is mostly known for his work as an attorney for 35 years with a popular law firm in Salinas, California, under his belt that he helped found in 1982. Besides helping young students obtaining the education they need, McCarthy

also spends his retired years as a League Commissioner for three different high schools within the Monterey Bay area. McCarthy's goal for this program is to go "beyond the traditional arms-length transaction of providing deserving students with financial assistance for higher education by fostering an ongoing, mutually accountable relationship between recipients and leader-mentors."

The recipients of this program work a long side with well educated mentors that help them with the program's services and to keep them up to date with things they should know about and focus on. Each student admitted in the program receives \$5000 each year to go towards their education but they will only receive this if they

can keep track of their classes and program their schedules so they can graduate in four years. To qualify for this program, each student needs to obtain and sustain, at least, a 2.5 grade point average.

Mike and Linda Dorn, philanthropists, had the three-story atrium, unveiled on August 15th, in the Tanimura & Antle Family Memorial Library dedicated to them for their support and leadership within the Pay It Forward program. As stated by President Dianne Harrison at the unveiling ceremony, the Dorns "both believe it is essential to invest in the communities where they live, whether full-time or part-time." Today, the program has a total of 40 students and 40 mentors and they hope to double within the next year.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY
RANDY TUNNELL, CSUMB STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

MIKE AND LINDA DORN ARE JOINED BY PRESIDENT DIANNE HARRISON AND JAMES BRACHER TO CELEBRATE THE ATRIUM BEING DEDICATED TO THESE WELL INVOLVED PEOPLE WITHIN THE PAY IT FORWARD PROGRAM

An Addition to the Honor Roll

CSUMB Gets a New Alumnus

Henry Houston, Online Editor
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Robert Danziger, who was bestowed upon the honor of an honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts from California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) on Sept. 14, never went to college. His lack of academic connection to any university left a hole in his life. Now, though, his Honorary Doctorate has filled that hole.

"For someone who didn't get to go to college, to be an outlier, to get [the honorary degree] is to be a part of something that I didn't get to be a part of," Danziger said. "I'm an alumnus now."

Although Danziger never went to college, the world has been his classroom. He founded the Sunlaw Energy Corporation, an unsubsidized power plant in which the air that comes out is "virtually cleaner than the air going in—the first and still the only such plant to do so," he said in a statement. His corporation, Sunlaw Corporation, was the

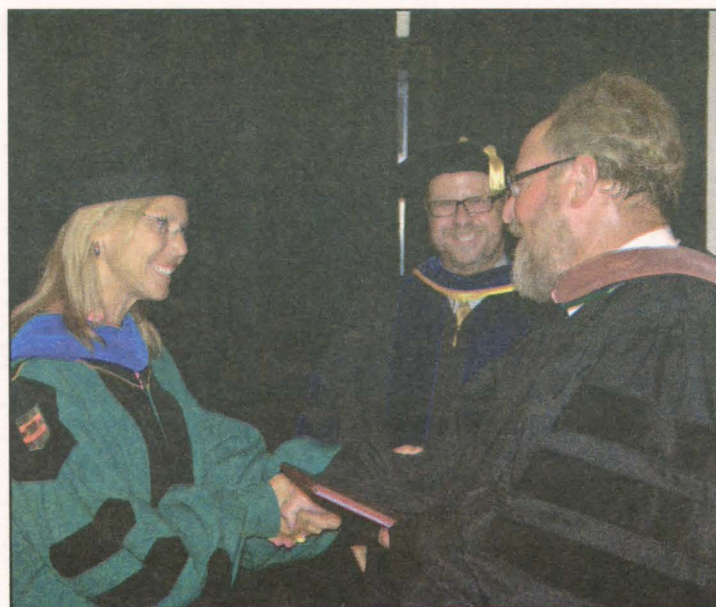


PHOTO PROVIDED BY
CSUMB.EDU

PRESIDENT DIANNE HARRISON HANDS ROBERT DANZIGER WITH HIS HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS AS CARL FERGUSON, CSUMB FACULTY SENATE, LOOKS ON AT THE PROUD MOMENT.

first alternative energy plant to succeed. There were other companies ahead of him, however. But, as he said, he watched them go bankrupt.

"It was very naked and very windy. But inventing all day, every day, felt completely natural to me, because of my background in music, and being taught to invent on a schedule at [California Institute of Technology's Jet Propulsion Laboratory]."

During the ceremony, President Dianne Harrison congratulated Danziger's innovative thinking. Harrison said that the honorary degree was in recognition of excellence and "extraordinary achievement in significant areas of human endeavor."

"Mr. Danziger's career linking the sciences, humanities and the arts embodies the interdisciplinary values integral to the vision of [CSUMB]."

Despite Danziger's commercial success in alternative success, he feels at home with CSUMB's hon-

orary degree, as well as the future that many students at CSUMB have.

"It's a great school. A lot of great leaders are going to come out of here," he said.

One student whom he believes to have great potential got into a discussion with him about energy.

"I was gonna give her my opinion," he recalled, "and she cut me off and said, 'why should I listen to you, you guys already screwed it up.'"

He laughed and said that is why he feels optimistic about the future.

"It is the students that take the facts and do the best [they] can without being bound [by the] dealt hand."

Danziger is also a musician, who won the New York Film Festival Best Original Music Award, and inventor and has a past of contributing his music to the National Steinbeck Center. He joins ten other honorary degree recipients in CSUMB's history.

**It was very naked
and very windy**

How Does Their Garden Grow?

CSUMB Gardening Club Attempting to Start a Campus Garden

Adam Shoulders, Staff Reporter
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The California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) gardening club, EDEN, was started by a group of students looking for ways to not only improve their own nutrition by planting organic and sustainable foods, but also to beautify the campus in their own way. The group began with a handful of students but now has grown to more than three dozen members. Their plan

**Modern Americans
are not connected to
the food they eat**

was to start an organic community garden on the CSUMB campus for students to plant what they want and to participate in the process of growing their own food. The group is also working to start a compost bin to collect the organic matter waste from the CSUMB food service areas.

EDEN is attempting to place a 20-foot by 26-foot area situated

across the street from the CSUMB Bookstore, near the Environmental Watershed Institute. According to Junior Elizabeth Lopez, ESTPB Major and EDEN co-president and activist, the site would contain space for an organic vegetable and flower garden as well as a BioStack compost bin, compost turner, and would use a water-efficient drip irrigation system, which would be routed from the Watershed Institute's central spigot.

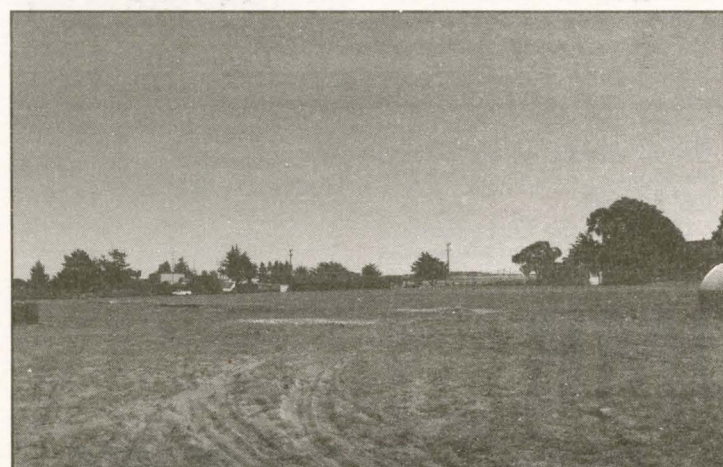
Currently EDEN is completing the required steps in securing space on campus for the proposed garden. Both county and school officials have required the club to submit paperwork and written proposals describing in detail what and how the garden will be used. They have also had to create plans and proposals to justify the use of the irrigation system on campus. Lopez described the process as "[dealing with] the little extra things we have to do."

The group has already obtained permission from the Watershed Institute to use the proposed land but the school administration and management is forcing EDEN to submit formal approval paperwork, which is adding to the amount of



THE PROPOSED SIT FOR THE CSUMB ORGANIC GARDEN

PHOTO BY: ADAM SHOULDERS



THE SPACE IS CURRENTLY AN EMPTY LOT ON THE CSUMB CAMPUS.

PHOTO BY: ADAM SHOULDERS

time it is taking to officially secure the location.

As part of the CSUMB student garden there would also be a yearly farmer's market for students to purchase food grown in the garden, which would be a place for students to purchase the organic food grown at the school as well as finding out more information about EDEN and their mission statement.

The members of EDEN have been working to change the way students at CSUMB look at food by creating a space that students

can come to for growing and eating organic food that is grown in their own "backyard." Lopez speaks passionately about the group's reasoning, "Modern Americans are not connected to the food they eat... very few people look at a head of lettuce and automatically think of the negative environmental and social impacts the purchase of this food has on communities far and wide."

A Composting Issue

CSUMB Struggles For Compost

Henry Houston, Staff Reporter
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It is a sight many California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students are accustomed to seeing: food leftovers and CSUMB Dining Services containers thrown in the trash. Although it may seem like common sense to throw these things in the trash, the more optimal choice for this waste would be in compost, which would help bolster CSUMB's sustainability efforts.

The containers CSUMB Dining Services uses for to-go use are manufactured for compost placement rather than waste. Bagasse Ware, which is a brand by BioMass, is what Dining Services uses for its to-go containers. The containers turn to mulch within 30 to 60 days in a home compost sys-

tem, but it can decompose much faster if used in a managed, municipal composting facility.

In addition, students and others that ate in the Dining Commons on Sept. 1 weighed their food and food-related waste for the "Weigh Your Waste" event, sponsored by Dining Services. According to Dining Services, the waste totaled 110.5 pounds.

According to Jeff Lindenthal, who is the public education and recycling manager with Monterey Regional Waste Management District (MRWMD), the absence of composting is detrimental to the world's health.

"The consequence is that organic material in the trash goes into the landfill where over time it will an [sic] aerobically break down and

create methane gas," Lindenthal said in an e-mail.

Composting will send less material to the landfill, as well as save resources, he added, "food scraps get turned into compost which can grow more food, a sustainable cycle."

Anya Spear, campus planner at CSUMB, said CSUMB has been trying to develop a pilot with Waste Management, who hauls the campus waste, and Sodexo. The talks have been underway in the past two years, and CSUMB has still not come to a cost-effective way in order to pick up food for compost.

CSUMB has been focusing on an off-campus solution because the school lacks the staff or funding to manage a compost system on campus. In

tackle issues such as animal control, fencing, as well as other environmental and safety issues.

"Our department has been approached several times over the last few years by students wanting to establish a compost program

we ask students to help us by proposing a plan to fund and operate a composting program. To my knowledge, no [one] has done this so far. If CSUMB students would be willing to pay a fee to have a program or pay more for their meal plans, we would have a budget to work with."

Despite the obstacles that CSUMB must overcome, the school is very interested in reducing the waste stream.

However, since many students already decry increases in fees, it may be very unlikely that they would be welcoming an increase in fees for a compost system on campus.



"GOOD COMPOST IS GOOD, ANYWAY YOU FIND IT"

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
FLICKR: NORMANACK

addition, the school would have to on campus," Spear said. "Each time

Best...Buy?

The Campus Tech Store Has You Covered

Christine Root, Staff Reporter
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Needing an upgrade this semester? The California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Tech Rental Store is the one stop resource on campus. The Tech Store offers low cost rental fees and purchase options at a fraction of retail prices, making a Mac Book Pro, Live Scribe pen, iPad, Hp laptop, calculators, cameras, clickers, and projectors within reach for everyone.

Located on campus behind Peet's Coffee on the first floor of Tanimura and Antle Family Memorial Library, the Tech Store is committed to helping students and faculty with educational and curriculum based technology tools.

Responding to the growing cultural dependency on mobile technology with forethought, CSUMB Wireless Education and Technology Center (WeTEC) founding Director and Director of Technol-

ogy and Development Arlene Krebs wrote the innovative grant responsible for funding the Tech Store start-up costs.

The grant's two-year project plan, seeking to integrate handheld devices across the course curriculums was one of the first grants of its kind in the United States. Since receiving the grant in October 2009, and (with quick action) opening just three months later in January 2010, the Tech Store has been a pioneer and model for other schools across the country.

"We are not in this to make money; we are here to offer the

students a service" stated Jonathon Baptista, Technical Specialist and project coordinator for WeTEC. He affirms, "Our goal is to be completely sustainable in the future."

Prices vary for all equipment depending on day, week, and semester rental time and with the exception of the Mac Book Pro have a purchase option.

The Tech Store offers low cost rental fees and purchase options at a fraction of retail prices, making a Mac Book Pro, Live Scribe pen, iPad, Hp laptop, calculators, cameras, clickers, and projectors within reach for everyone

Through other partnerships, the store also offers a purchase price of only \$120 for a refurbished Desktop PC loaded with Microsoft Windows XP and Microsoft Office 2007, keyboard, mouse

and monitor.

With online tutorials available to



PHOTO PROVIDED BY
PHILIP WONG

assist people on how to use new programs and equipment and payment plans available, dedication to accommodate the students and faculty is obvious.

Encouraging feedback from students regarding their technology wants and needs, Baptista discussed how he tries to add a few new pieces of equipment to the list each semester, citing laptops and camcorders as examples of previous requests he was able to accommodate.

Looking at the future plans for the Tech Store and the increased

exposure from the new library location, Baptista acknowledged his concerns for the limited supply of clickers next

semester. Baptista recommended that anyone who plans on renting a clicker next semester should put one on reserve before the semester starts and he noted that this fall "...was the first semester we ran out."

For more information regarding the CSUMB Tech Store and available equipment please contact: Tech Rent at (831)582-5107.

Steps To Success At CSUMB

You Could Win \$100!

Brittany Harden, Staff Reporter
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This semester the Student Learning Center is putting on a series of workshops to help its students with problems from procrastination issues to those who want to learn how to professionalize their image. Students will have the opportunity to attend six workshops. Any CSUMB student that attends at least 3 of the workshops gets entered into a raffle to win \$100 gift card from the school bookstore. As to the question of why to have a raffle, Jiha Ejan—retention advisor at the Center for Student Success—replies, "The raffle is an extra incentive to get our students out to our workshops! It's the icing on the cake; not only will students learn some interesting and useful information, but they might possibly win money to pay for textbooks and we all know how expensive textbooks can be"

The first workshop was held on Monday Sept. 19, 2011 with the subject of Life Goals. This workshop taught how to create Specific Measureable Attainable Realistic Time-Bound (SMART) goals and showed students how to achieve

them. The second will be held on Thursday, October 13 on the subject of Personalizing Your Image. It will be held in the Media Learning Center (MLC) in room 120 from 1 a.m. to 2 p.m. The main idea of this workshop is to help students become aware of how to present themselves in a professional setting.

If you find yourself cramming last minute for a test or writing a paper the night before it is due, one of these two workshops may be for you. The third and fourth workshops will be called the Anti-Procrastination Plan. The first will be held

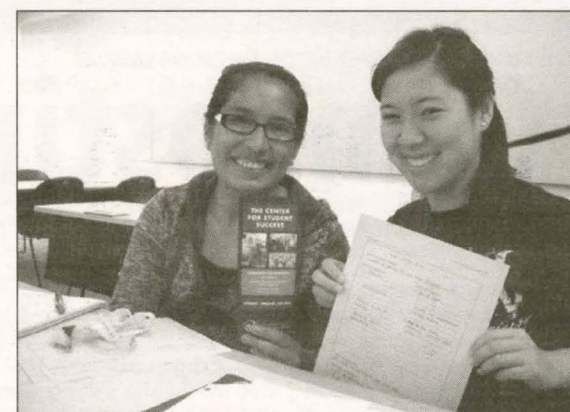
on Tuesday, Oct. 25 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Chapman Center in room E 105. The second Anti-Procrastination plan will be held on Wednesday Oct. 26 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the MLC in room 170. This workshop was created to help students effectively manage their time. When asked why two Anti-Procrastination workshops are planned, Ejan stated that "I want

to have two anti-procrastination workshops so that we can target as many people as possible at CSUMB."

The fifth workshop will be called I Want Plastic! Credit Card 101 held on Tuesday, November 8 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Service Learning Building in room 103. This workshop was created for students who are curious about the process of applying for credit cards. If students attend they will be able to create a thorough idea of what it means to have a credit card and the debt that may possibly come with it.

The final workshop of the semester will be called Decrease Your Stress, to be held on Wednesday, December 7 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Library conference room 2159. It is a workshop to teach students how to relax themselves during finals by learning to create heating pads and other crafts to help improve their mood.

It's icing on the cake!



ROMY RENDON AND KATIE MORI ENJOYING THE WORKSHOP "LIFE GOALS"

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
BRITTANY HARDEN



JILLIAN EJAN IN FRONT OF THE POWERPOINT PRESENTATION AT THE WORKSHOP "LIFE GOALS"

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
BRITTANY HARDEN

A Deeper Cut

California Budget Cuts Affect Those Needing Free HIV/AIDS Testing

Adam Shoulders, Staff Reporter
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Budget cuts, something Californians are not strangers to. The state is facing one of the worst financial crises in its history. New and aggressive budget cuts have ripped through every state department and civic service office. Gov. Jerry Brown has repeatedly called the cuts in his new financial program, "...a tough plan for tough times." But how deep do these cuts go?

Along with the myriad of proposed cuts there has been an \$80 million cut to HIV/AIDS funding throughout the state of California. This cut has severely limited the resources that patients suffering from these debilitating diseases have access to. Gone are the programs that offered free HIV/AIDS medication to those living under the poverty line (those that have an annual income of less than \$11,000). Patients will now be forced to assume copays that may cause many who cannot afford these fees to quit the programs all together.

Closer to home, the Campus

Health Center at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) will no longer be able to offer free HIV/AIDS testing to the students and faculty. State budget cuts have stopped all free testing for HIV/AIDS and have forced the Health Center to charge a fee for each test.

The discounted fee is \$26 and is provided by Quest Diagnostics.

Dr. Jacqueline Sedgwick, who is one of the doctors on duty at the Campus Health Center, expressed her dissatisfaction with the current budget cuts.

"It is tragic that State and Federal Budget cuts have resulted in inadequate HIV Counseling and Prevention Services. Focusing funding only on treatment misses the opportunity to prevent human suffering."

Even with this discount there are

some who feel as though they are losing the anonymity provided by the free testing. Those who choose to pay the \$26 to Quest may use their credit/debit cards, or personal check, something that, as one CSUMB student who due to the nature of the article requested

to remain anonymous, stated: "I don't want my family to see any financial records of [me] getting a [HIV/AIDS]

There are no easy answers...but there are likely better answers when it comes to containing costs in our state AIDS programs

test."

The state is dealing with its financial crisis in many different ways. There are those who protest these cuts and the programs to which they affect. Courtney Mulhern-Pearson who is the Director of State & Local Affairs at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation told TheBody.com, "For a state in total



THE STUDENT HEALTH CENTER IS LOCATED ON INTER-GARRISON ROAD. ACROSS THE STREET FROM NORTH QUAD

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
ADAM SHOULDERS

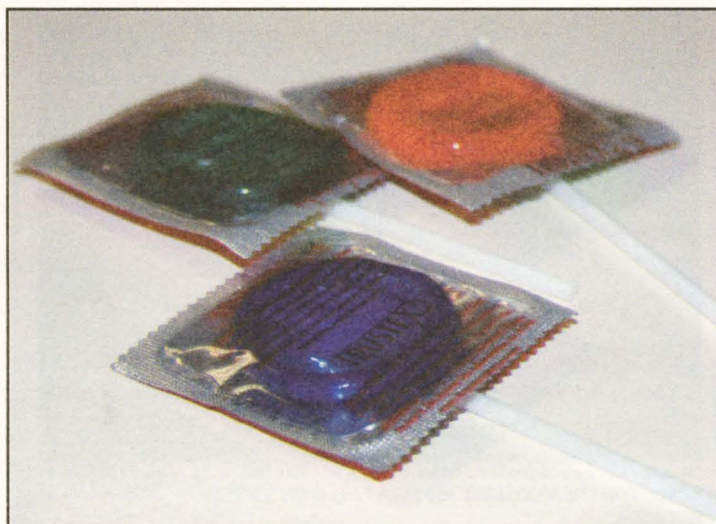
fiscal crisis, there are no easy answers. But there are likely better answers when it comes to containing costs in our state AIDS programs. We must work collaboratively with state public officials and explore alternative solutions to ensure that the burden of these cuts don't fall on people without the political power to fight them."

For students and faculty who are at higher risk there is free HIV/AIDS testing provided by Central Coast HIV/AIDS Services (CCHAS). For more information visit www.cchas.com, or call (831-442-3959).

Oral Sex As Dangerous As Any Other

Oral Cancer Tied to Oral Sexual Activity

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EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE TO PROTECT THEMSELVES WHEN THEY ARE INVOLVED IN ANY TYPE OF SEXUAL ENCOUNTER

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
ADAM NAPOLETANO

Although many are not quite old enough to remember a time when AIDS was not prevalent—a time when the choice to have sexual intercourse did not mean having to consider one's own mortality—most grew up believing oral sex was somehow safer and freer from such harrowing realities.

However, according to scientific studies released earlier this year, the leading cause of oral cancer (cancer of the neck, head, and mouth) in the United States is oral sex. The link is especially noticeable in young white men.

The real culprit is Human Papillomavirus (HPV), which is spread through infections, oftentimes unnoticed and untreated.

The link to cancer in women is not nearly as blatant as in men,

largely due to the fact that many women are mandatorily treated with an HPV vaccine to help prevent cervical cancer.

According to Maura Gillison of Ohio State University, "The single greatest factor is the number of partners on whom the person has performed oral sex."

She also states that the odds of a person developing an oral cancer from HPV are determined by the number of oral sexual encounters a person has. Someone that has given oral sex six or more times, according to Gillison, is actually eight times more likely to get an oral cancer than somebody with less than six total oral partners.

Despite the gravity of the study, scientists are worried young people, especially teens will disregard

the warnings. According to Dr. Bonnie Halpern-Felsher of the University of California, San Francisco, "Adolescents don't think oral sex is something to worry about. They view it as a way to have intimacy without having sex."

Recent attempts at awareness have been made. British actress Jaime Winstone has openly advocated for government policies in England to include young men in their vaccinations. She is planning an upcoming documentary.

According to oralcancerfoundation.org, oral cancer in the United States kills one person every hour, or 8,000 a year.

Sustain Your Environment

Local Activists Inspire Green Ideas Through Community Involvement

Justin Ebrahemi, Staff Reporter
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Right in the backyard of Monterey is a non-profit organization capable of great measures. Citizens for a Sustainable Monterey County (CSMC) focus on nature conservation, park restoration, recycling, and renewable energy. The organization umbrellas eight action groups, including Sustainable Seaside and Monterey Green Action, and they work closely with Fort Ord For You (ForU) to preserve and enhance the lands of Fort Ord. Drawing from the efforts of a small England town, CSMC adopted the Transitions moment to build a stronger "community resilience in the face of the challenges of climate change, peak oil, and the collapsing global economy." The non-profit seeks to develop a future energized by sustainable sources, which is fostered within localized economies and cherished by a strong sense of

community. With these principles in mind, CSMC became a member of Transition US in 2009.

Although there are great environmental opportunities to get involved in the community, California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) community members can also get involved for a swift financial raise. CSMC is hosting a logo contest where amateur graphic artists are able to submit their artwork for the organization's use.

The logo would be used by local Marina businesses, certifying them as companies that contribute to the local economy by producing local goods and services. Consumers will view the logo as a recognizable icon for businesses that genuinely maintain an environmental approach to their affairs. "The only stipulation for the prize is that the \$50 should be spent at local Marina

businesses. Contest entrants must be residents of Marina or members of the CSUMB community," the organization said on their website.

The organization exercises an array of green activities, from building community gardens, to waste reduction and, water conservation, to the promotion of pedestrian-friendly urban design. Students and faculty from CSUMB are deeply involved in the environmental efforts of Citizens for a Sustainable Monterey County, including Biology professor Suzy Worcester.

Interested in how to get involved? For further details about the logo contest, or to find a local group, visit their website www.sustainablemontereycounty.org.

Sosteniendo el Medio Ambiente

Local Activists, Ideas Verdes y Participación de la comunidad

Justin Ebrahemi, Reportero
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Justamente aquí en Monterey existe una organización sin fines de lucro que es capaz de alcanzar grandes logros. Citizens for a Sustainable Monterey County 'Ciudadanos para un Condado de Monterey Sostenible' (CSMC, por sus siglas en inglés) promueve la protección del medio ambiente, la restauración de parques, el reciclaje y la energía renovable. La organización aglutina a ocho grupos de acción que incluyen Sustainable Seaside 'Seaside Sostenible' y Monterey Green Action 'Acción Verde Monterey', y también colabora con Fort Ord For You (ForU) 'Fuerte Ord Para Ti' para conservar y enriquecer los terrenos del Fuerte Ord.

Basándose en los esfuerzos de un pueblo pequeño en Inglaterra, el CSMC adoptó el lema de la organización Transitions 'Transiciones' para edificar una "resistencia comunitaria más fuerte ante los desafíos del cambio climático, el precio alto del combustible, y una economía mundial que se desploma". La organización busca desarrollar un porvenir que reciba su energía de fuentes sostenibles, que

fortalezca las economías locales y que sea valorado por un sentido de comunidad. Siguiendo estos principios, el CSMC se hizo miembro de Transition US 'Transición EEUU' en el 2009.

Además de los importantes proyectos ecológicos, los miembros de la comunidad de California State University, Monterey Bay 'Universidad Estatal de California en la Bahía de Monterey' (CSUMB, por sus siglas en inglés) también pueden participar y hasta recibir una pequeña retribución financiera. CSMC está llevando a cabo un concurso de logotipo en que los diseñadores gráficos no profesionales tienen la oportunidad de presentar su ilustración para que sea usada por la organización.

El logotipo que gane será empleado por negocios locales en Marina para comprobar que son empresas que contribuyen a la economía local por comprar productos y servicios locales. Los clientes verán el logotipo como una muestra reconocible de negocios que sinceramente se esfuerzan por conservar el medio ambiente. "La

única condición del premio es que los 50 dólares tienen que gastarse en un negocio local en Marina. Los participantes del concurso deben ser o residentes de Marina o miembros de la comunidad CSUMB," dice la página web de la organización.

La organización lleva a cabo una gama amplia de esfuerzos ecológicos que incluyen: construir jardines comunitarios, reducir la cantidad de basura, conservar agua y promover un diseño urbano peatonal. Algunos estudiantes y profesores de CSUMB participan de buena gana en los proyectos ambientales de Citizens for a Sustainable Monterey County, incluso la profesora de biología Suzy Worcester.

¿Estás interesado en saber cómo colaborar? Para más información del concurso de logotipo o para encontrar un grupo local, visita la página web www.sustainablemontereycounty.org.

Traducido al español por Earl K. Brown
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DR. LAURENCE BREAKER OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN JOSE DISCUSSES THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE RISING SEA LEVEL.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
RAQUELLE MILLER

DR. LAURENCE BREAKER OF CAL STATE SAN JOSE HABLA SOBRE EL CRECIMIENTO DEL NIVEL DEL MAR.



LOCAL AUTHOR DAN LINEHAN SPEAKS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES HE STUDIED IN ANTARCTICA IN 2006.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
RAQUELLE MILLER

EL AUTOR DAN LINEHAN HABLA DE SUS ESTUDIOS AMBIENTALES EN LA ANTARTICA. EN 2006.



LADIES FOR SUSTAINABLE SEASIDE WALK ALONG THE BEACH FOR THE MONTEREY 350 EVENT HELD ON SEPTEMBER 24TH.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
RAQUELLE MILLER

LAS MUJERES DEL GRUPO SEASIDE SOSTENIBLE MARCHAN EN LA PLAYA EN EL EVENTO MONTEREY 350, EN SEPTIEMBRE 24

Katie Shoneff, Staff Reporter
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In Butterfly Town, USA, also known as Pacific Grove, residents and town officials wait anxiously for November to roll around which will mark the start of Monarch season. A couple of years ago, though, the Pacific Grove Monarch Sanctuary and the Monarch population almost ceased to exist due to a tree-trimming job within the Sanctuary.

The Pacific Grove Monarch Sanctuary is lined with towering eucalyptus and pine trees, which have become home for Monarchs between the months of November and February. Each year the

clusters of Monarch butterflies. However in 2009, city officials hired tree trimmers to cut the limbs within the sanctuary that were close to falling and deemed dangerous. After the tree trimming, though, many officials and residents felt as if the job was "overdone."

According to the Monarch Sanctuary Report of 2009, one sanctuary frequenter, Paul Cherubini, believed the trimmers went above and beyond what was required of the job. Cherubini, an entomologist from El Dorado County, wrote an e-mail to Monarch Sanctuary docents Sally and Pat Herriott about the issue.

"I could not hardly believe my eyes because it was obvious to me this amount of pruning will substantially

degrade the suitability of the Sanctuary as a cluster site and the butterfly population is likely to be substantially

lower and less stable this year and for years to come," said Cherubini.

The Eucalyptus and Pine trees provide the necessary amount of shade and direct sunlight for the Monarchs while simultaneously protecting them from harsh ocean winds. After the trees were cut, the monarchs lost that natural protection and a noticeable amount of butterflies present in the 2008 season were gone in the season of 2009.

After the initial "damage" had been analyzed, a city council meeting was called to address the issue and discuss possible solutions. The meeting was filled with questions of who let this happen, how did it happen, and what are they going to do to fix the problem, all of which were answered.

Officials blamed a "breakdown in communication" between the

Sanctuary employees/ volunteers and the Pacific Grove city officials after the city's reorganization began. Officials specified that their communication failures were "a result of new staff members without long-term familiarity with the unique requirements of habitat conservation issues."

Over the past few years the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History has taken over the city's position of "Monarch docent trainers, schedulers, and advocates."

A complaint was

filed with the museum to have some of the trees trimmed. Today the museum's official stance is that "the city absolutely had to trim the Sanctuary trees for public safety and for safety of our Sanctuary docents. Our Museum Sanctuary docents count the

Sanctuary's Monarch population almost every week so we will have clear data to validate/ invalidate Paul's concerns as the Monarch season progresses. The Monarch population peaks in late November to early December so we will know soon enough."

The sanctuary saw a small rise in Monarch population from 2009 to 2010 and are looking forward to seeing if 2011 is a prosperous year for the city's mascot, the Monarch butterfly. City officials have been in discussion about approving a new Monarch butterfly sanctuary plan.

"We're just really looking forward to moving forward with the community who knows so much and has given so much for the sanctuary," said Deputy City Manager Jim Becklenberg.

Pacific Grove's Monarch Grove Sanctuary is located on Ridge Road off of Lighthouse Avenue in downtown Pacific Grove. Official Monarch season starts in November and lasts until February.



PHOTO BY: BOB PACELLI

sanctuary is transformed from barren branches to an overwhelming abundance of orange and black

The butterfly population is likely to be substantially lower and less stable this year and for years to come

History Still Alive

Church Converted To Local Library a Mainstay of Monterey

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In a world that is cataloguing itself at astronomical rates, one in which every utterance is tweeted and every mood change posted, the true honest-to-God resources are tough to come by, but they are out there. On the north end of Van Buren Street in Monterey, tucked beneath a batch of cypress trees, sits the Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Research Library, a veritable Mecca for California historians in any and all shapes. The library specializes in local collectibles from the Monterey Peninsula, although it has loads of state treasures as well. There is even a classic atlas from the eighteenth century written in Latin.

The quaint, brick red building actually is historical itself. It was built as an Episcopal chapel in 1876, housed a little down the road on Pacific Street in a time when the only other church in town was the

Roman Catholic San Carlos Cathedral. The St. James Episcopal Church was built and run by Father James S. McGowan and remained in its original location for about one hundred years. It was then bought by the Monterey History and Art Association for one dollar, transported to Van Buren Street, and converted to its current state as a local library.

The stories to be found inside the library are as fantastic as the building's story itself. Head librarian Faye Messenger's regalements take visitors through the

local landscape with a fresh historical perspective. She recalls how her own point of view changed after spending some time in the library. "All of history was unreal to me, but once the stories started to come up."

And the stories are many. They range from the controversies surrounding land baron David Jacks (for whom Jacks Park, among many things in Monterey, is named—his sword and sheath are hanging on the wall of the library) to the old Gold Coast Troopers (a pack of local vaudevillians that would perform in the heyday of Cannery Row) to Samuel Morse (The Duke of Del Monte) to the travels of Father Serra (founder of the California missions) to the plethora of cartoonists that lived on the Monterey Peninsula to the Bohemian artist community that emigrated to Carmel after the great 1906 earthquake.

According to the library's website, it is a resource for scholars, researchers, and students—and for obvious reasons. "This truly was the cradle of history in California—here in Monterey," says Messenger, an obvious enthusiast of both history and California. "But the researchers are getting lazy now. You know, you have to look into three or four sources to make sure it's true. Per-

sonally, I'm really leery of people who don't do this for a living."

The library used to have an internship program with California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB), but since then not many Otters have been seen within the same walls that once witnessed the baptism of John Steinbeck's son, Thom. In fact, most of the visitors are tourists walking the hills of Monterey on the city's "path of history" on the way to the Presidio. And with all of the worries about financial stability in California, Messenger is unfazed, thanks to the uniqueness of the library itself.

"I think we're gonna make it. You know, we're probably the only city with all of these old functioning buildings still in place. It's very special."

Sadly, the hours of operation are limited. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday the library is open from 1:30 p.m. until 3:45 p.m. To volunteer, simply drop by



MONTEREY ARCHIVE PHOTO

and speak with a docent—there is always one around to help direct visitors to the photos, maps, original manuscripts, local books, periodicals, clippings, and other source materials. And as Messenger reminds: "There's WiFi!"

Most importantly, however, is the atmosphere of local culture that invades anyone who sits down within the formerly holy walls. With a beautiful view of Monterey Bay and its marina, the annals of history drift around the place like charming ghosts inside a museum, whispering their secrets and begging visitors to go ahead and open up just one more book.

¡VIVA LA CULTURA!

National Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrations

Jurija Metovic, Staff Reporter
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National Hispanic Heritage Month, held from September 15 to October 15, is the time when people recognize the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States with celebrations of the Hispanic heritage and culture.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, "September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of the independences of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively."

To kick off Hispanic Heritage Month in the community, Jorge Campos was welcomed to the Monterey Bay Aquarium where he was presented with the Heroe del Medio Ambiente (Friend of the En-

vironment) Award on September 9. Jorge Campos is considered one of the twenty most important goalies of all time. The Mexican and U.S. soccer legend joined a campaign to help protect the oceans in 2006.

The largest and fastest growing minority group in America

As a native of Acapulco, "He knows the world's oceans need our help. He has been extremely active in gathering

support within the Hispanic and Latin community to help protected areas off our coast and he deserves the award," said Ashley, a part-time summer volunteer from San Diego, CA. Jorge Campos is continually active in ocean issues that are exceedingly important to the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

In addition to Monterey Bay Aquarium's Hispanic heritage kick-off, California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) welcomed all members of the campus community to a free, outdoor maria-

chi celebration on September 15. The celebration took place by the Chapman Science Academic Center and took place during the wee hours of the night.

To continue the month's celebrations, the ladies of Theta Alpha Sigma and gentlemen of Nu Alpha Kappa invited students to El Grito, a celebration of Mexican independence at the Black Box Cabaret. The event took place from 9:00 PM to 1:00 AM at the campus's number one event center.

Upon hearing about the events to take place on campus, Spanish Professor Jon Strolle commented that, "Hispanic Heritage month is a key to helping everyone understand how the U.S. was constructed and what we are becoming."

In addition to our community and campus events, KQED proudly continues to celebrate the rest of the month by scheduling Latino-themed programs.

Celebrations continue around the country and our American government continually thanks the Latino and Hispanic heritage for all

of their outstanding contributions." As the largest and fastest growing minority group in America, the His-

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi stated, "Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to celebrate our na-



PHOTO PROVIDED BY CRYSTAL MARIE LOPEZ

panic community's ability to thrive is vital to the future of our nation and is critical to our out-educating, out-innovating, and out-building the rest of the world," reads an official statement from the White House on September 14, 2011.

highlight the accomplishments of Hispanic Americans in all walks of life from business and education to government and the arts. ."

It is apparent this month means a lot to the country and to the CSUMB campus.

If Walls Could Talk

Visiting Artist Annice Jacoby Drops by for a Little Show and Tell

Jessica Radogna, Staff Reporter
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ANNICE JACOBY AND CSUMB'S OWN JOHANNA POETHIG GO WAY BACK

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JESSICA RADOGNA

On Thursday September 22, 2011, California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) warmly welcomed Annice Jacoby as the first installment of the Visiting Artists Lecture Series. The event took place in the CSUMB Alumni and Visitors Center and highlighted Jacoby's work as author and editor for her latest book *Street Art San Francisco: Mission Muralismo*.

With a brilliant slideshow using the images from her book, Jacoby demonstrated the raw beauty of the murals seen in the Mission District, as well as the evocative power they hold over the community. Moreover, that they are social, political and intellectual statements to whomever are willing to listen and observe.

"People have so many misconceptions about where art is and

what its intentions are," said Jacoby. The book, which showcases San Francisco's artistic epicenter through photographs and a collection of 30 in depth essays, is the finished product of what Jacoby calls a "ten year labor of love" between herself and a slew of contemporary artists, including Grammy winner, Carlos Santana. "I think the whole Mission neighborhood is a massive public artwork, both being sacred and profane, brimming with graffiti [graffiti] and goddesses," Santana writes in praise of his hometown.

Indeed, San Francisco's Mission District is known for its rich ethnic culture and diversity, and boasts some of the city's most provocative works of art. It is a "vigilante city" as Jacoby describes it, a society brimming with raw talent, vibrant bohemian culture and enthralling sto-

ries, where "traditional art merges with the irreverent."

Today, the phrase "Mission Muralismo" is used to describe the unconventional artistic movement that combines Mexican mural painting, surrealism, pop art, urban punk, eco-warrior, cartoon, and guerilla graffiti to create sophisticated street art.

"It is an art that isn't finished and relies on the viewer's experience to finish it," said Jacoby. "You are the ultimate curator of [that] experience."

When it comes to such large scale public art projects, Jacoby is no veteran. In addition to serving as Director of Performing Arts

Public Events at the University of California, Santa Cruz as well as the Director of Public Relations at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, she is an accomplished painter, musician, and writer, and has helped produce a number of multimedia productions for her community, including but not limited to City of Poets, The Roof is On Fire, and No Blood/No Foul. Even still, she finds time to donate to numerous causes, most notably, The Fort Point Project for the Hague Ap-

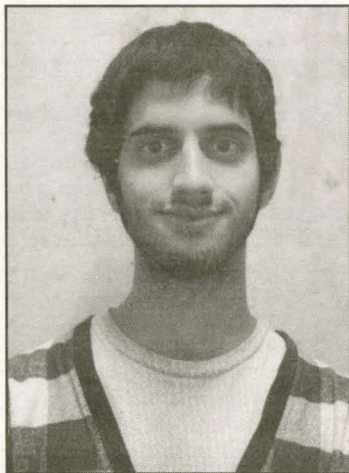
People have so many misconceptions about where art is and what its intentions are

peal for Peace.

Currently, Jacoby is working with the Library of Congress to launch "Moving Words," an all story radio broadcast.

The Blue Lagoon

One Man's Trip to the Gothic Throes of Santa Cruz



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In the liberal chaos of Santa Cruz's Pacific Avenue rests an unlikely venue for two very different types of fun. Every Sunday night, The Blue Lagoon hosts a Gothic party in the midst of the typical club night.

This rustic downtown venue is the place to go if you're trying to shoot some pool, grab a beer, or embrace your inner darkness with the welcoming Goths. My roommate brought me along to party with the Goths recently. With great curiosity, I put on the darkest outfit I could find and was emerged in a world of cryptic music and happy partiers.

Although the Goths were amiable to one another, I sensed some animosity to the other portion of the club. The "typical" clubbers were labeled as "beach douchebags" by an older man I met.

We squeezed our way through the crowd of loud, drunk guys to find the entrance to the Gothic portion. I was surprised to see my

roommate greet the bouncer with friendly gestures and learned that they were buddies. Normally, I surpass the bouncer at clubs and get inside as quietly as possible. I realized that this wasn't a typical club, however.

Upon entering, I noticed that most of the attendees knew each other and there was more conversation than dancing. There was no resemble of a cliquey atmosphere;

everyone was open to meet and greet new clubbers. Gothic individuals from various ages and backgrounds gather to openly express themselves without judgment. On the dance floor, I witnessed multiple forms of expression. With dance moves not confined to a specific regiment, everyone was able to liberate their inner inhibitions.

After a couple modestly-priced Red Bull-Vodka's, I joined the "dark souls" on the floor and expressed myself with the most ridiculous dance moves I could possibly perform. The beauty of it was that I didn't look out of place at all.

Although the Goths were amiable to one another, I sensed some animosity to the other portion of the club. The "typical" clubbers were labeled as "beach douchebags" by an older man I met. When I stepped outside to this typical side, I overheard one of these "beach douchebags" refer to the Gothic

clubbers I became a part of as "fucking weirdoes." Shocked by the tension, I was emerged in an implicit aura of negative energy. Both groups of people had just come out to have a good time with their friends, yet some couldn't refrain from being judgmental.

If I attend again, I would like to get some of these stereotyping individuals to trade places and meet some of the folks on the opposite side of the venue. Maybe then they'd see that these beach bums weren't douchebags after all, and that the Goths weren't all too "fucking" weird.

Despite the subtle hostility, I had a refreshingly good time and would recommend this venue to anyone searching for an interesting experience on a Sunday night. The experience is undoubtedly fascinating, especially if you happen to be a "fuckin'" weirdo or a beach douchebag.

Coffee and Art

There Is an Alternative to Your Boring Night



Aubrey Madrigal, Staff Reporter
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If you think there's no nightlife in Monterey, you're not the only one. The general consensus of the area is that all shops close down at 8 p.m. Yes, this is a sleepy town, and yes, things do move at a slower pace around here. For those of us looking to spice up the night, there's a café that is challenging that rule.

Their coffee is local and organic,

and their presence will soon be regarded as legendary. Since their opening in 2008, they have built a strong following of young and creative artists and fans. The Alternative Cafe, located on Fremont Boulevard in Seaside, is just the place to try something new at night.

The Alternative Cafe should be your first stop for late night plans. It seems that every night there's something going on. Sundays are always Alternative Open Mic nights. These shows are open to the general public, and allow amateurs to showcase their talents live on stage. Once the sign-up list is released, just write your name and carry on until it's called. On any other day, one need only check out their "events" page at alternative-cafe.com to see what's going down that particular night. The music variety is abundant, and they are not pigeonholed by any one genre.

The Alternative Cafe should be your first stop for late night plans. It seems that every night there's something going on.

They also have art exhibitions frequently. The art is varied and unique, which ranges anywhere from life-like, to surreal, to gorgeous photography that sticks to you like a thorn and won't let go.

Their upcoming exhibit, opening on Oct. 14, will showcase the art of San Francisco based artist Matt Linares. His oil on canvas work pulls images from a childhood spent in a technological age. Seemingly advanced robots work their way through a child's imagination and dreams.

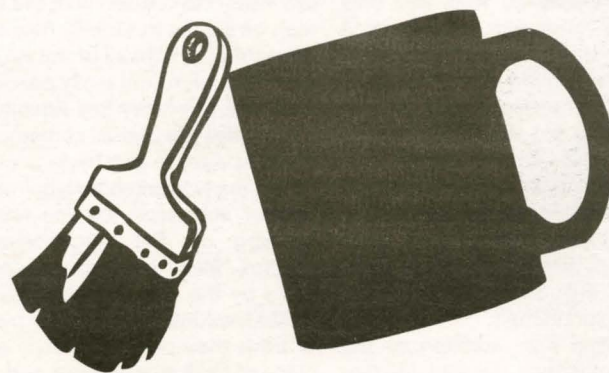
While most of the art shown at the gallery is local and San Francisco Bay Area based talent, even urban street artist extraordinaire Shepard Fairey has been attracted to this one of a kind treasure deep in the heart of the Monterey Peninsula. Known for his "OBEY" experiment, as well as the iconic image of President

Barack Obama, titled "Hope", Fairey has been attracted to the charm of the Alternative Cafe, and has put art up for viewing in the past.

While charm may be a perfectly fine way to look at this cafe, a better classification may be intrigue. This is not a Starbucks. This is part odd-world boutique, part art gallery, part nifty nightlife house, and part caffeine station. They carry a strange smorgasbord of products ranging from UglyDolls, to Dark Horse Comics, and even small bits to delight the child inside of you from the Oriental Trading Company. Their

stock is always rotating, so there will always be something new to see.

While discussing with friends what you may want to do this weekend, don't forget to check out the Alternative Café's events calendar. They're finding new and exciting ways to wake up this sleepy little town. The Alternative Cafe is located at 1230 Fremont Blvd, Seaside, CA 93955. Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. everyday. Open late for special events.



Let the Cooking Begin!

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Students Chefs Tests Their Skills in Fiery Battle

On September 14th 2011, three students from California State University Monterey Bay showed their amazing cooking skills in the Battle of the Student Chefs which occurred in our very own Dining Commons. The three contestants Kelli Jo Killingsworth, Saesha Hall, and Brian Ramler each had individual zones for them to create their amazing dishes for the judges. In the end, Brian Ramler came out on top with 90 points followed by Saesha Hall with 86 points and Kelli Jo Killingsworth with 85 points.

Each contestant in this competition had access to a generous supply of ingredients and each was equipped with a partner and a professional chef from our staff. Brian Ramler had help from Paul Disselhorst, Saesha Hall had help from John Halligan and Kelli Jo was accompanied by Andrew Stubbs, who definitely impressed the judges

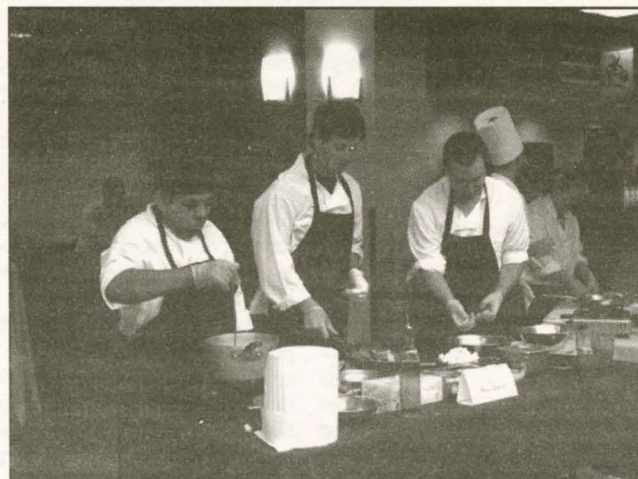


PHOTO PROVIDED BY KYLIE FIELDS
CONTESTANTS COMPETE BY SHOWCASING THEIR COOKING SKILLS AT THE DINING COMMONS

es with his knife work. Judging the contest and enjoying the wonderful food created by these amazing chefs were Maria Garcia, Director of OPS and University Corporation,

Chip Thomas, Director of Housing, Christine Erickson, Dean of Students, Mark Anderson, managing editor, and Lindsey Williams, CEO of Otter Student Union. To determine

the winner, the judges were given three categories (taste, presentation, and originality) to rate the dishes that the contestants created. The theme of this competition? In celebration of Hispanic Heritage month and Mexican Independence week, each contestant had to create two dishes that represented this culture.

The winning team Brian Ramler and Paul Disselhorst created two dishes that wowed the judges. The first one was a homemade tostada with carne asada, black beans, freshly made guacamole and homemade chips. The second dish was a traditional dessert with honey sopipilla chips topped with powdered sugar, cinnamon, fresh strawberries, fresh blueberries,

with an ice cream base. All drizzled with honey to make the dish even better. The two seniors and members of Kappa Sigma were proud of their dishes. When asked why they felt their dishes were better, the two team members felt that what set them apart was the fact that they made a lot of their dishes from scratch. To Ramler and Disselhorst, the Battle of the Student Chefs competition was "ballin' outrageous and frat-tastic!"

Cooking competitions have become increasingly more popular since

the television networks have been taken over by cooking shows such as Top Chef and Hell's Kitchen. The Battle of the Student Chefs did not have a Chef Gordon Ramsey to direct them through the competition, but they still passed with flying colors with their amazing dishes.

"We saw the hurdle and we jumped over it" said Ramler when asked what the competition meant to them. The two seniors found this competition exhilarating to be a part of and were full of pride when they won.

**We saw the hurdle
and we jumped
over it.**

Otter Pride: Outside the Kelp Bed

For the Fishes, For the Community, and For You

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Of all the things Monterey Bay is known for- the beaches, the golf courses, the school- there is one thing that stands out in everybody's mind. For visitors and locals alike, it's the aquarium. Located at the end of historic Cannery Row, the Monterey Bay Aquarium (MBA) has been delighting those who walk through its doors since 1984. It is something the peninsula is proud of.

Currently, a juvenile Great White Shark is on view in their renewed Open Sea exhibit. It is very rare to have such an exquisite animal in captivity; not to mention for it to live more than 20 days, and they can only thrive with proper care. It is important to note the MBA has had seven sharks now, and have successfully released each one as it grew too big for its facility. The sharks have been described as majestic, rare, and something that can not be seen anywhere else. The CSUMB community can take pride in the fact that such things happen in their own backyard, and they happen successfully.

Another new addition to the aquarium is their Hot Pink Flamin-

gos exhibit. It focuses on starting the conversation about climate change locally, as well as globally. There is a board on which to write notes to the community to jump start thoughts. It also shows how the MBA's reach is not only regional, but worldwide.

Fears of the aquarium being out of reach monetarily are eased as there are great affordable options for students. Student membership for a year, with proper identification, is only \$50. For two students, the membership is \$90. The membership includes entrance to the aquarium, 10 percent off in the gift shop, Member nights, and even special dinners and events that allow visitors to connect with the animals on exhibit in a totally new and intimate way. With all of the exhibits, information, and really peaceful areas the Monterey Bay Aquarium has to offer, the CSUMB community may just want to give back.

On many weekends large numbers of volunteers can be found cleaning up the neighborhood beaches. Many of these are organized by the aquarium, as well as by MBA volunteers. For every piece of trash they pick up, that is one piece of trash that will not end up

in the oceans. It also gets students involved in their community. The beaches are beautified and kept clean for all to enjoy, as well as the next generation.

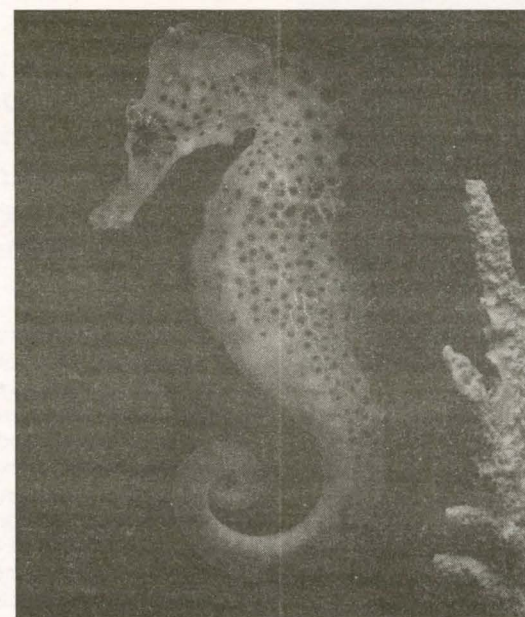
The "Seafood Watch" program has made it easy to make smart choices in regards to what is eaten on the Monterey Peninsula. The Monterey Bay Aquarium has compiled data regarding the health of the fish in the area, as well as the use of farming, and overfishing. They are looking out for the health of the ocean, people in their community, and across the nation. With technological (seafoodwatch.org), high tech (Seafood Watch app for Android), and low tech (Seafood Watch printed pocket guides) resources, community members and visitors can always be prepared to act locally, but think globally. The folks at MBA have even joined up with Whole Foods Market to make sure shoppers are making smart choices as well.

Locally at CSUMB, attempts are made to open the minds and hearts of students to their own way of thinking and being. The Monterey Bay Aquarium encourages their visitors to open their minds and hearts to those around them. It touches the souls of all of who

enter, and leaves an indelible mark on their thoughts about the world; seen and unseen.

The Monterey Bay Aquarium is located at 886 Cannery Row, Mon-

terey, CA. Hours vary and are posted on their website at monterey-bayaquarium.org.



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CSUMB's Rugby Team Gets Ready For A New Year!



THE TEAM CAPTAIN, RYAN SCOTT PRACTICING FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON.

PHOTO BY: KYLIE FIELDS

Kylie Fields, Staff Reporter
KFIELDS@CSUMB.EDU

Rugby is a sport that is played with brutal strength and speed. To win, a team must use those traits to push the ball down the field to score, and whichever team has the most points accumulated, they will bring home the win. Our very own California State University, Monterey Bay's (CSUMB) Rugby team is charging down the field to the new season, to bring home the win for us Otters.

With a club sport, anyone is allowed to join and anyone is welcome to. There are about 15 players that have played a full rugby season on the team and who are willing to help the ones that are

somewhat new to the sport. Ryan Scott, captain of the CSUMB Rugby team stated,

"The game takes a little while to get used, but once you understand it, you fall in love with it," the team's captain, Ryan Scott, said.

Last year, CSUMB's team competed against a team from Scotland in a friendly match. The Otters may have lost to the Scottish team, but they did not lose their rugby spirit.

The game takes a little while to get used, but once you understand it, you fall in love with it.

This year the team has a roster of just fewer than 50 players that are eager to play. The practices are normally held on Monday and Wednesday evenings on Schooner Road and Wainwright Road, at East Campus, where about

30 to 40 players come out and hone their skills. Every Friday a "fun" little touch-rugby game is held in the main quad from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.

CSUMB Rugby's season doesn't actually start until January and ends around mid-April, but on Oct. 29, CSUMB Rugby will be competing in the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) Slugfest. The tournament is hosted by UCSC, and teams come from all over California and Nevada to participate.

The next chance for the team to prove their brawn and speediness before the season starts, is against Fresno State on November 19 at Preston Park.

The Rugby team will sponsor a movie event on Oct. 7. The team will show the film *Invictus* in the Tanimura and Antle Library in room 1188.



PHOTO BY: KYLIE FIELDS

Don't Miss The Otter Athletics in Action!

MEN'S SOCCER

Friday, October 7, 2011
Cal Poly Pomona
12:30 P.M. at Soccer Complex

Friday, October 14, 2011
Sonoma State
3 P.M. at Soccer Complex

Sunday, October 16, 2011
Humbolt State
11:30 P.M. at Soccer Complex

Friday, October 28, 2011
Cal State Los Angeles
12:30 P.M. at Soccer Complex

Sunday, October 30, 2011
Cal State Dominguez Hills
2 P.M. at Soccer Complex

VOLLEYBALL

Friday, October 7, 2011
Univeristy of California,
San Diego
7 P.M. at Otter Sports Center

Saturday, October 8, 2011
Cal State San Bernardino
7 P.M. at Otter Sports Center

Friday, October 28, 2011
Cal Poly Pomona
7 P.M. at Otter Sports Center

Saturday, October 29, 2011
San Francisco State
7 P.M. at Otter Sports Center

WOMEN'S SOCCER



PHOTO BY: JESSICA BENEDETTI

Friday, October 7, 2011
Cal Poly Pomona
3 P.M. at Soccer Complex

Friday, October 14, 2011
Sonoma State
12:30 P.M. at Soccer Complex

Sunday, October 16, 2011
Humbolt State
2 P.M. at Soccer Complex

Friday, October 28, 2011
Cal State Los Angeles
3 P.M. at Soccer Complex

Sunday, October 30, 2011
Cal State Dominguez Hills
11:30 P.M. at Soccer Complex

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Images: R. Pasibe

Want to get jazzed up for your studies?

Song Full of Hate?

THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HATE SPEECH AND FREEDOM OF SPEECH



Erika Murillo, Staff Reporter
EMURILLO@CSUMB.EDU

In South Africa, Julius Malema, politician of the African National Congress (ANC), was found guilty of quoting a song some South Africans find hateful. The song in question is called "Kill the Boer", popular in the segregated period of South Africa (S.A.), which refers to the white population in the country but specifically descendants of the Dutch. As a citizen of the United States (U.S.), I was appalled to hear that this man was denied his freedom of speech because some

found what he said to be hateful.

Although primarily the white population found the song to be hateful, I think that every person has their own interpretation to the meaning of a song. In this day and age, everyone is entitled to speak their mind; but how can one know whether they have crossed the thin line between hate speech and freedom of speech?

In the U.S., we are privileged to have Freedom of Speech, which is written in our Constitution's First Amendment. Under this particular amendment, we, as citizens, have the right to speak our mind without having any backlash from the government. This right is so broad and open to interpretation it is sometimes difficult to comprehend what truly constitutes freedom of speech.

In our nation, we have a system which distinguishes whether or not a certain type of speech is protected or harmful. David Reichard, Professor of History and Legal Studies here at California State University

Monterey Bay (CSUMB) states, "the government does not get involved and usually upholds this right." In a few cases, the Supreme Court has denied this right due to speech that was deemed "obscene," because "fighting words" leading to lawless action," were included, according to Reichard.

With this being said, a song is a form of speech, for better or for worse. Songs are protected under our Constitution, even if they are interpreted by the public as hateful, unless the song is considered inappropriate. For example, songs insinuating sexuality along with a plethora of other criteria. However, a government should not be allowed to ban a song due to its negative content.

In relation to what was mentioned before, people trying to condemn Malema for quoting a song that was used during the apartheid era of S.A., should take a step back

and listen to what the song stands for. In this case, "Shoot the Boer" can be interpreted in two different ways by two distinct people in the same country. For the black population of S.A., this song could be a symbol of a past time when

there was no equality. "This song is not to be taken as a literal threat", as Malema told reporter Donna Bryson of

the Associated Press, but rather as a call to "fight oppression still going on" in a country 17 years after the apartheid era. For the white population of S.A., the lyrics can be taken literally and may strike fear into the minority.

On one hand, the song is understood as a symbol, in a figurative sense, yet, on the other, it is taken as a threat instilling terror. At that, a song is open to varying opinions and not one person will have the same understanding. Rap music,

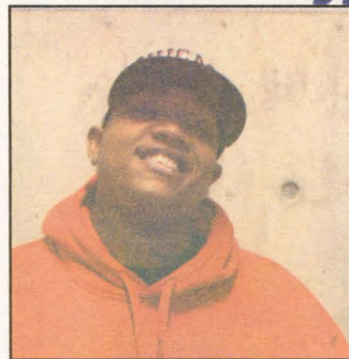
in general, is known for degrading women with edgy and sometimes offensive language. Various songs, in this genre, such as "Get Money" by the late rapper Notorious B.I.G., and "Ain't No Fun" by Snoop Dogg, constantly refer to women as whores who are used just for carnal pleasure. In literal terms, this could be implied as the main reason as to why women are exploited for sexual purposes. Nonetheless, despite their demeaning implications towards women, they express their need for a woman in order to feel complete. Whatever the interpretations are this does not stop people from listening and supporting the genre.

Not everyone is going to react the same way or is going to find the same meaning in any form of speech or written word. Even though a song is meant to convey emotion, people will have their own opinion about its meaning.

*With this being said,
a song is a form of
speech, for better or
for worse*

High Prices Tough Times

Students Struggle to Pay for Meals



Evander Blakely, Staff Reporter
EBLAKELY@CSUMB.EDU

The Otter Express (O.E.), located at the heart of the California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) campus in building 14 is the home of great food, student lounging, and HIGH PRICES. That's right, HIGH PRICES, recently there has been an uproar on campus regarding the over charged food at the O.E.

Spending \$15 a day is not an effective way for a student to budget, and students agree the prices at the O.E. put a major dent in their pockets. Whether you use blocks,

flex, or hard earned cash those prices have a way of making customers grunt when they have to purchase something. "I spend on average, ten dollars per meal at the Otter Express. I spend less than that at McDonalds, it's a total rip off," said student Manuel Lechuga, senior, business. Students and staff agree these prices are a definite problem.

Alvin Taylor, a five year veteran cashier at the O.E. explains that students have been coming through the line complaining for years now. "The prices are obviously a problem. I encourage students to speak up and do something about it," said Taylor. He further said that students who come into the O.E. spend on average three blocks per meal which is equivalent to fifteen dollars. "Fifteen dollars per meal is unacceptable. Students would be better off eating McDonald's every

day, at least it will come out a little cheaper," Taylor joked with me, but I openly agree with him.

California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) student Vincente Zito, senior, Kinesiology, feels the exact same way, "I stopped going to the O.E. so often because I cannot afford it. I remember as a freshman my blocks would run out so quickly because the high prices would eat them up."

Is this fair? Is it fair students are forced to pay high tuition and high prices on books, but cannot sit in their university dining locations and enjoy an affordable meal?

Let's talk prices, a Double Cheeseburger meal costs \$6.48 at the Otter Express which is double the price of a Double Cheeseburger meal at McDonald's (\$3.49).

The cheapest meal available at the O.E. is the Chicken Sandwich which costs \$3.99, almost a dol-

lar more than a mini meal at a fast food restaurant (\$2.99). Students should be cut some slack with the O.E. prices considering the fact that students should not have to worry about having enough money to afford food. The prices at the O.E. should be lowered considering the recent tuition hike and escalating school fees (think expensive books, lab fees, and school supplies). Many would say it is unfair and "scandalous" because it seems as though there are always things students must come out of pocket for.

"I remember running out of blocks and having to borrow some from friends, that ain't cool at all," said former student Ruben Reyes. Feelings of the O.E. ripping students off by overcharging them for food are echoed throughout campus. Many feel action should be taken and somebody should file a complaint.

Personally, I have walked in the shoes of some of these students. I remember as a freshman at CSUMB I would run out of money early in the semester because I was spend-

ing so much on food. There were even some instances in which I went without food for days because I could not afford it.

Is there a solution? CSUMB 2011 graduate Nicholas Giustini seems to think so. He feels that since universities raised the price on tuition the least they can do is lower something for the student's benefit. Lowering prices in the Otter Express will make the CSUMB experience more enjoyable and convenient for both students and staff. It will also encourage more students to eat at on campus dining locations because they are more affordable. If these prices continue to stay the same, students will stop enjoying the O.E. One thing is proven, the lower the prices the higher the outcome (message from me to the O.E.). Due to time restraint I was unable to pursue the head authority at the O.E., but The Otter Realm welcomes all individuals to share their opinion about this topic. You are able to respond online at otterrealm.net.

*I stopped going to
the O.E. so often
because I cannot
afford it*

Can Spongebob Make You Gay...AND a Liberal?

The Effects (Or Lack Thereof) Of Cartoons And TV Shows On Political Affiliation



Adri Nishio, Staff Reporter
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Who lives in a pineapple under the sea? According to certain Christian groups and conservatives, it's no longer an innocent yellow sponge with angular pants, but rather a gay-loving, pro-global warming, tree-hugging, liberal loofa of sorts.

Fox News has accused Spongebob Squarepants of pushing "a global warming agenda" through episodes and educational booklets. The problem Fox News had with this was the fact that Squarepants was "only looking at it from one point of view" (which is rich considering the network that statement

came from) and presenting man-made global warming as fact when it is "unproven science," according to Fox News. Fox doesn't think this issue should be "forced" onto children since it's not yet proven.

If conservatives weren't concerned enough, the accused sponge was also allegedly part of a "pro-homosexual video," as labeled by James Dobson, the founder of a conservative Christian group called "Focus on the Family." In reality, Spongebob Squarepants made a brief cameo—along with several other characters including Barney and the cast of Sesame Street—in a video distributed to elementary schools that promoted the tolerance of diversity, but nowhere mentioned sexual lifestyles or identities. Dobson believed that the video is a means to manipulate and brain-

wash children, and Keith Olberman of MSNBC sarcastically summed it up by saying that if Dobson is right, the video, and Spongebob, could indeed "make you, you children or maybe your furniture gay. Or tolerant." Heaven forbid!

On the opposite side of the political spectrum is Thomas the Tank Engine, who has been criticized for endorsing a conservative political ideology. Shauna Wilton, professor of political sciences at the University of Alberta analyzed the show's plot and characters of twenty-three episodes and found that it inadequately portrayed women and showed the trains being punished for displaying dissent or initiative. She also found that children's shows are not as harmless as they seem; they can, in fact, help influence a child's political affiliation.

These allegations that children's TV shows will somehow shape a child's future political ideology seem a bit farfetched. No cartoon is going cause a child to dabble in a different sexual identity or totalitarianism. Political ideologies are influenced by much larger controls than TV shows; say, for instance economic class, parents, and education. If anything, our political ideologies shape what we watch, not the other way around. Reports from media-research company Experian Simmons show that Republicans lean towards highly rated shows such as "Dancing with the Stars," while Democrats favor moderately rated shows like "Mad Men" and "30 Rock." Experian Simmons also noted that Democrats prefer shows about damaged people while Republicans tend to shy away.

But what if TV shows really did influence our political affiliation? If a Republican were to watch CBS' The Big Bang Theory or ABC's Modern Family would it turn he or she into a Democrat? Apparently not, since more Republicans like those shows than Democrats. While it is more likely for TV shows to possibly affect our political affiliations as children than as adults, I think it is doubtful they would make any profound difference at any age. But what about a mindless "guilty pleasure" reality show like Jersey Shore? Experian Simmons found the show to be favored by Democrats...probably due to the fact that Democrats prefer shows about damaged people.



Valerie Hulburt, Staff Reporter
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Let me tell you about a girl.

She is the All-American girl. Grew up in a suburb with mom, dad and little brother. Played sports and got good grades. Had lots of friends and a boyfriend all through high school. Now she is a senior in college. Still involved in sports, still gets good grades, has lots of friends, and as normal as can be. Except for one thing. She is a 22-year-old virgin. That is right folks, hers is one cherry that has yet to be popped!

I know what you are thinking—how and why? Why is she a virgin?! How can she go without sex?!

Both can be answered with ease now that she has had plenty of years to practice. But that does not mean her answers go without weird looks towards a girl that most think should be riding the crazy train. Before I let her explain why she is not a totally nut case I want to see what my peers' point of view is on all of this.

Basically, I want to know why. Why does most of our generation choose to have sex when many of them are not ready for it?

Raneshia, a 19-year-old student at CSUMB expressed, "peer pressure and feeling like the person would see me as less than who I am if I did not do it," was what drove her decision to have sex for the first time.

Anthony, a 20-year-old salesperson said, "health class told me that the average male loses his virginity before he turns 17 [...] that made me go 'holy s***, I better get laid soon!'...and I did."

And Sergio, a 22-year-old student from CSUMB told me, "I was just trying to fit in and 'be a man'."

Besides the reason why people our age choose to have sex, the more interesting question might actually be why some choose NOT to have sex.

A 20-year-old girlfriend of mine who attends UC Riverside said, "I wanted [sex] to be with someone who was important in my life, [I]

just hadn't met that person in high school so I waited 'til college."

A 20-year-old male peer from CSUMB expressed he chooses to abstain from sex "for religious reasons."

What about the girl I told you about. How has she stayed a virgin for so long? I can tell you all about her because I am her. I am the 22-year old virgin. That may come as a shock to some but it is the truth. I am still in possession of the "precious" V-card and this is my side of the virginity story.

First things first, WHY am I still a virgin? In high school it was all about not getting pregnant, plain and simple. I have nothing bad to say girls who get pregnant in high school; it just was not the path that I saw for myself. I was pressured just as much as the next girl. Only difference was I did not budge one bit—ask the three guys I dated in high school about that. Cannot see them being too happy with my reluctance. Since high school, it has been less about the risk and

more about finding the right guy to experience it with. Excuse me for being a dreamer but I want my first time to be special. For anyone, sex should be about knowing when is the right time for yourself and the person you are with and being sure you are happy with whatever decision you make.

Second, HOW could I stay a virgin for so long? With so much pressure in the world you would think it would be much easier to cave and "just do it" (thanks NIKE) instead of fighting it. But it is a lot easier to resist than people take it to be. It is like the D.A.R.E campaign used to say when we were in elementary school, "JUST SAY NO." Except instead of saying no to drugs, I would say no to sex. When it comes to sex if I did not feel it was right I was not going to let somebody bully me into thinking it was. A lot of times "no" is one of the first words of the English language we learn, all you have to do is not be afraid to use it.

All these stories show that whilst the decision to have sex is a per-

sonal one, whether male or female, it is also very much a decision that is pressured by our society and our peers. As much as I would hope that the decision is completely personal I cannot be blinded by the amount of persuasion that outside influences have on the final decision. Even so, that does not make it right. Bottom line—when and whether or not I have sex is none of anybody's business. What is others' business is that deciding to have sex is MY choice; an individual's choice; a personal choice. It is not society's, not your peers', not anyone's other than your own.

Excuse me for being a dreamer but I want my first time to be special

To Have Sex or Not to Have Sex? Ready Or Not, The Question Is Here!

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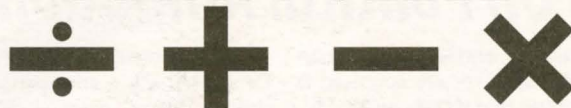
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OTTER OOPS

Issue 1:

"The fallen Marine mentioned in David Affield's speech during CSUMB's Sept. 11 remembrance was Nick Aleman, whose birthday was on Sept. 10."

MATH PUZZLE



After the revolution, each of the 66 citizens of a certain country, including the king, has a salary of one dollar. The king can no longer vote, but he does retain the power to suggest changes - namely, redistribution of salaries. Each person's salary must be a whole number of dollars, and the salaries must sum to 66. Each suggestion is voted on, and carried if there were more votes for than against. Each voter can be counted on to vote "yes" if his salary is to be increased, "no" if decreased, and otherwise not to bother voting.

The king is both selfish and clever. What is the maximum salary he can obtain for himself, and how long does it take him to get it?

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Otter Realm is a bi-monthly student publication produced by the Otter Realm club and HCOM 389. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Otter Realm, CSUMB administration, faculty, staff or college policy.

The Otter Realm serves two purposes: It is a training lab for students who wish to develop journalism skills, and it is a forum for free expression of campus issues and news. The Otter Realm Editorial Board will determine what to print on these pages. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for libel, space or clarity.

SUDOKU

su-do-ku [soo-do'koo]

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.



Moving in Together

HIS
Eric Warnars, Staff Reporter
EWARNARS@CSUMB.EDU

HERS
Jessica Radogna, Staff Reporter
RCRADGNA@CSUMB.EDU

The beginning of relationships can be so easy. At first, it's fireworks, laughing, dating, sex, cuddling, more sex, long walks, even more sex, Eskimo kisses, double dating, which is commonly followed by group sex (just kidding... or am I?). Eventually it gets to a point where you don't live with your partner, but you are sleeping in the same bed every night. Who doesn't like the sound of that, right? *Stereotypical sex grin and eyebrow raise* That is where the true fun begins... Or so one may think.

Sleeping in the same bed can usually lead to one thing and one thing alone - living together. That is when a couple can truly see what they are made of. The cute "I miss you :)" texts and "haven't seen you, have to have you" moments fly right out the window (and don't try and shut the window, they will still find a way out, sincerest apologies). When you live with a spouse, there is not a thing you do not learn about them - good and bad, unfortunately. Men will be men as women will be women. It is the nature of our species. As a male, there are certain things I can tell you that most of us have in common.

We take short showers and long poops. The toilet seat belongs up (don't ask us to put it down, it's more convenient that way and we are lazy). We clean because we have to, not because we want to. And finally, we don't want to talk about our feelings, especially after sex (oh sex, haven't heard that word in a while, huh? Well you won't when you live with together either).

I'm sure there are a lot of women (even men) that may have qualms with these things. Does that mean that men are the bane of live-in relationships? Not quite. Women have their ways of getting under our skin as well (*achem* nagging).

It is easy to begin to suffocate when beginning to live with your spouse. But "love conquers all" and true love will find a way to prevail even in the darkest of times (though try not to shatter anything expensive). So why is sharing a refrigerator harder than sharing a bed at night? Well that is easy. Because the outcome grants a reward far greater than the risk—to be lucky enough to find the person you are meant to spend your life with.

And finally, mix it up! Whether it is a new set of lingerie, a different position, or even just a graphic discussion of your wildest fantasies, do not be afraid to get creative!

So play it smart, and that searing reality bitch slap just might be lessened to a playful slap. The kind you really enjoy.

Making the big move seems like a good idea at the time. And why not? You two spend all your available time together, you practically have reserved closet space at the other's place anyway, and you are tired of making that long walk of shame down the driveway every morning. Besides, moving in together means split rent, and incredibly kinky, outrageously frequent sex, right? WRONG. The naked truth is that "playing house" is not some extended version of your kinky role-playing fantasy; it is more like a searing reality bitch slap.

Sure, there is always the initial honeymoon phase. Nothing says "do me now!" quite like a room full of brand new furniture; and honestly, those walls would beg to be violated, if walls could talk. Still, there are only so many surfaces to christen before sex on the daily settles into some mundane "twice-a-week" routine.

At the same time, be prepared to chuck whatever illusions you may have developed regarding your personal dreamboat out the window. The hot girl in a miniskirt and perfectly windblown hair... yeah, say goodbye to her! Say hello to sweatpants and facial masks. And Prince Charming? He may very well turn back into a beer-guzzling, belching toad faster than you can say "stroke of midnight."

Another pitfall of cohabitation: chores. The sexy over-sized t-shirt you borrowed, the lace pair of panties you left on the floor, even the pillowcase where you left your scent...are suddenly tomorrow's dirty laundry (no pun intended).

Okay enough, Negative Nancy. How do you keep the dreamboat a rockin'?

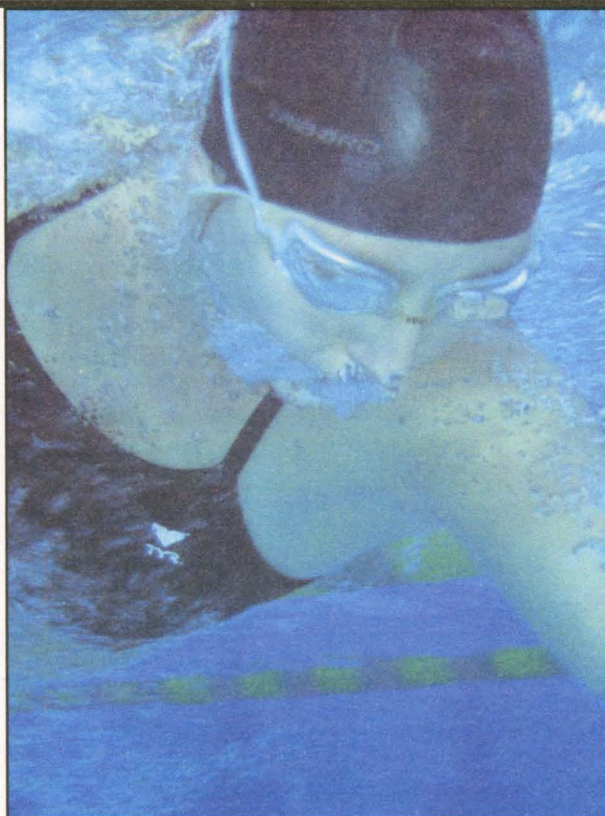
For starters, it is best that you each have somewhere to go for personal space, a "cave" of sorts. Just because you live together does not mean you are required to spend of every waking minute of every day with each other. A small escape even to another end of the apartment/house once in awhile may help to ease any tension or frustration you may be feeling towards your partner.

Secondly, be up front with each other: your pet peeves, your turn-ons, turn-offs. Moving in together is a huge step, and will obviously take some time to adjust. Try to ease into each other's living habits rather than going full throttle with the left-up toilet seat or clumps of hair down the drain.

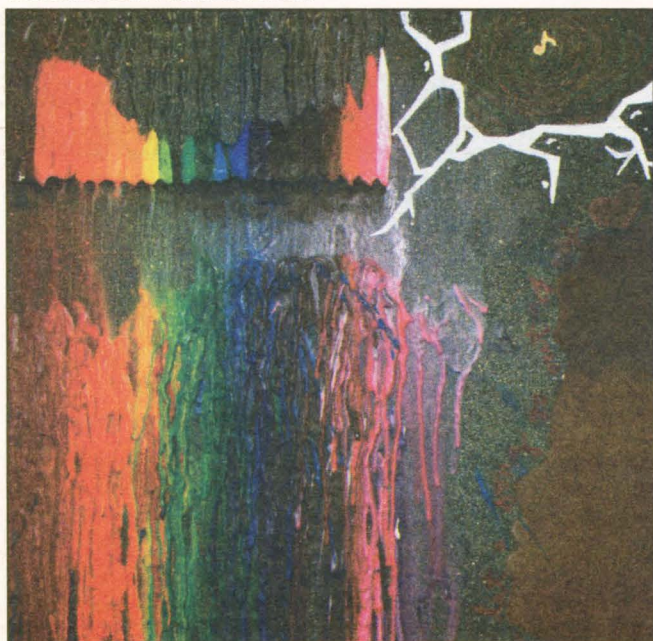


Morgan Dalmacio
Junior
Psychology with VPA minor

Morgan Dalmacio
Junior
Psychology with VPA minor
Preferred Media: Acrylic paints or coloring pencils
Showed Piece: I usually don't give my pieces titles, so unfortunately my painting doesn't really have a title. I used RoseArt crayons, acrylic paints, Prisma coloring pencils and paint pens. I don't really know how to explain this piece. When I paint, I have a very vague idea of what I want and then I think as I work.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY
LAUREN FINCH
SOPHOMORE
VPA



Ode to the Chicks at Hy-Line Hatchery

Jessica Mejia
Junior

hcom and itcd

Pushing through the confines of a white shell,
I peep at a world of plain walls, wires, and metal.
The mechanical clanking deafens my ears and
the harsh lights bleach my view.

Suddenly, cold hands hurl me onto a gray,
moving platform with my sisters and brothers. Why are we here?
The platform must meet a hill. The incline prevails
and we stumble. I see my sister fall. She now limps among the scatter shells on the stiff, cement floor.

The hands now search for my brothers, tossing them
onto another path. Why can't they come with us?
They fall down a tunnel filled with

the sounds of crushed bones.
I pray those bones are not their own.

The hands now pick me up. Please don't take me away. Let me stay. They place my head in a fast, rotating machine. It spins me around, making me dizzy.
An abrupt pinch floods my face with pain. Where is my beak?

A woman at a grocery store pulls her cart up to the meat aisle. Fresh chicken grown to perfection, she reads from the box. Sounds delicious.

"This is my reaction to a youtube video, depicting the abuse shown towards chicks."
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJ-faib7to>

SUBMISSIONS

Ever wanted to have something published in a newspaper?

Nows you're chance!

The Otter Realm is now looking for creative works of poetry, short stories, letters to the editor, and reviews. Send your submissions to submissions@otterrealm.net. Our print limit is 500 words, but we will publish the rest at www.otterrealm.net

What is your culture and what aspect of your culture are you most proud of?



PHOTO PROVIDED BY
ADAM NAPOLETANO

Tyler Belko

Freshman, ESTP Major

I'm German and have a little Native American in me but I live surf culture. Surf Culture is to basically live for waves. Riding waves is such a natural high and for me personally surfing changes the way you see things. Surfing has made me appreciate nature so much and partially inspired me to major in ESTP.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY
ADAM NAPOLETANO

Melissa Yu

Junior, Marine Biology Major

I am Chinese and Burmese. I am most proud of being Burmese and it's unique culture because many people don't know where Burma is. So it's always nice to educate people on where Burma is and about its people and food

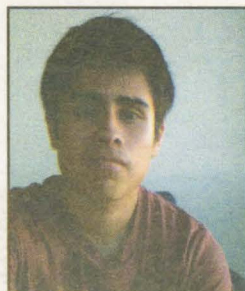


PHOTO PROVIDED BY
ADAM NAPOLETANO

David Gutierrez

Sophomore, CHHS Major

I'm Mexican. I haven't visited much so I can't relate a lot to my culture, but the one thing that I am proud of is that I can relate to a lot of other Hispanics. I'm proud of the fact that I can go anywhere and find someone who I can relate to.

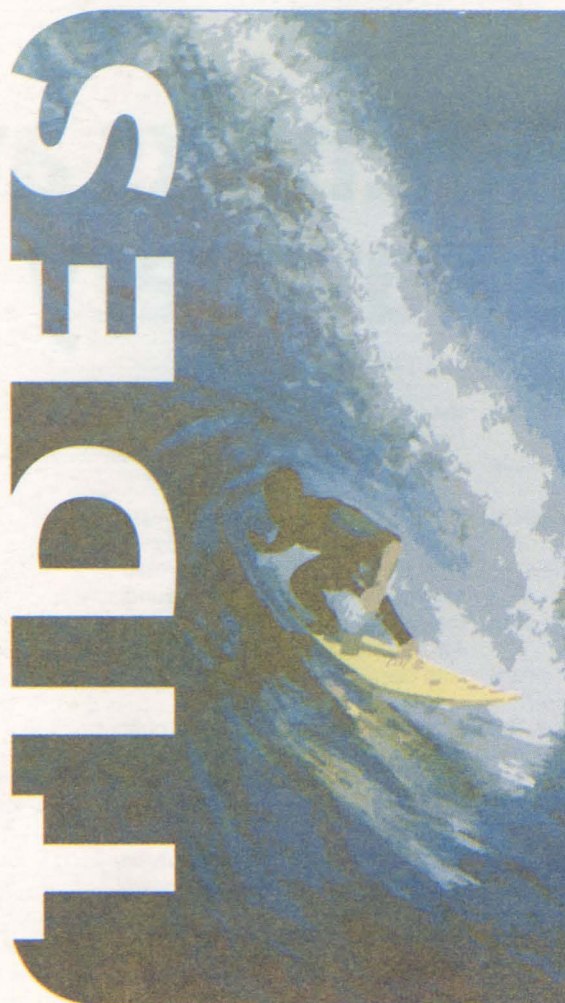


PHOTO PROVIDED BY
ADAM NAPOLETANO

Julia Bailon

Junior, Biology Major

Being half Filipino really helped me always feel like I've had the best of both worlds!



DAY				TIDES				COEFFICIENT
				1 st TIDE	2 nd TIDE	3 rd TIDE	4 th TIDE	
29 Th		7:02am	6:53pm	12:19am high tide (4.8ft)	5:47am low tide (1.5ft)	11:58am high tide (6.2ft)	6:55pm low tide (-0.5ft)	100 very high
30 F		7:03am	6:52pm	1:21am high tide (4.4ft)	6:30am low tide (1.9ft)	12:42pm high tide (6.2ft)	7:54pm low tide (-0.5ft)	86 high
1 S		7:03am	6:50pm	2:30am high tide (4.1ft)	7:18am low tide (2.4ft)	1:32pm high tide (6ft)	8:58pm low tide (-0.4ft)	68 average
2 Su		7:04am	6:49pm	3:49am high tide (3.9ft)	8:17am low tide (2.7ft)	2:30pm high tide (5.7ft)	10:07pm low tide (-0.2ft)	54 average
3 M		7:05am	6:48pm	5:14am high tide (3.9ft)	9:35am low tide (3ft)	3:40pm high tide (5.3ft)	11:19pm low tide (0ft)	43 low
4 T		7:06am	6:46pm	6:29am high tide (4ft)	11:08am low tide (2.9ft)	4:59pm high tide (5ft)		42 low
5 W		7:07am	6:45pm	12:25am low tide (0.2ft)	7:26am high tide (4.3ft)	12:33pm low tide (2.7ft)	6:16pm high tide (4.9ft)	48 low
6 Th		7:08am	6:43pm	1:21am low tide (0.3ft)	8:09am high tide (4.5ft)	1:40pm low tide (2.3ft)	7:24pm high tide (4.8ft)	58 average
7 F		7:08am	6:42pm	2:09am low tide (0.5ft)	8:44am high tide (4.7ft)	2:32pm low tide (1.8ft)	8:22pm high tide (4.7ft)	67 average
8 S		7:09am	6:40pm	2:48am low tide (0.7ft)	9:14am high tide (4.8ft)	3:16pm low tide (1.4ft)	9:12pm high tide (4.6ft)	75 high
9 Su		7:10am	6:39pm	3:22am low tide (1ft)	9:40am high tide (5ft)	3:55pm low tide (1.1ft)	9:57pm high tide (4.5ft)	80 high
10 M		7:11am	6:38pm	3:51am low tide (1.3ft)	10:03am high tide (5.1ft)	4:31pm low tide (0.8ft)	10:39pm high tide (4.4ft)	84 high
11 T		7:12am	6:36pm	4:18am low tide (1.6ft)	10:26am high tide (5.2ft)	5:05pm low tide (0.5ft)	11:21pm high tide (4.2ft)	85 high
12 W		7:13am	6:35pm	4:44am low tide (1.9ft)	10:49am high tide (5.3ft)	5:40pm low tide (0.4ft)		83 high
13 Th		7:14am	6:33pm	12:02am high tide (4.1ft)	5:09am low tide (2.2ft)	11:14am high tide (5.3ft)	6:16pm low tide (0.3ft)	80 high